Consolidated financial statements of

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

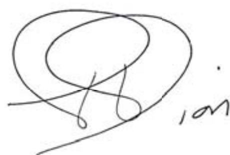
The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Quebecor Inc. and its subsidiaries are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Board of Directors of Quebecor Inc.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards and include amounts that are based on best estimates and judgments.

The management of the Corporation and of its subsidiaries, in furtherance of the integrity and objectivity of the data in the consolidated financial statements, has developed and maintains internal accounting control systems and supports a program of internal audit. Management believes that these internal accounting control systems provide reasonable assurance that financial records are reliable and form a proper basis for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements and that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded, and that the preparation and presentation of other financial information are consistent with the consolidated financial statements.

The Board of Directors carries out its responsibility for the financial statements principally through its Audit Committee, consisting solely of outside directors. The Audit Committee reviews the Corporation's annual consolidated financial statements and recommends their approval to the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee meets with the Corporation's management, internal auditors and external auditors to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, and formulates the appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors. The auditor appointed by the shareholders has full access to the Audit Committee, with or without management being present.

These consolidated financial statements have been audited by the auditor appointed by the shareholders and its report is presented hereafter.



Pierre Dion
President and Chief Executive Officer

Jean-François Pruneau
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Montréal, Canada

March 8, 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the shareholders of
Quebecor Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Quebecor Inc. and its subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as at December 31, 2015 and 2014 and the consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, equity and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the consolidated financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Quebecor Inc. and its subsidiaries as at December 31, 2015 and 2014, and their financial performance and their cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

[1]

Montréal, Canada

March 8, 2016

[1] CPA auditor, CA, public accountancy permit no. A107913

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars, except earnings per share data)

	Note	2015	2014
Revenues	2	**$ 3,879.5**	$ 3,607.7
Employee costs	3	**697.4**	648.6
Purchase of goods and services	3	**1,741.4**	1,549.3
Depreciation and amortization		**693.6**	661.1
Financial expenses	4	**335.0**	350.3
(Gain) loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments	5	**(6.7)**	94.7
(Gain) loss on litigation, restructuring of operations and other items	6	**(116.9)**	49.6
Impairment of goodwill and other assets	7	**230.7**	81.0
Loss on debt refinancing	8	**12.1**	18.7
Income before income taxes		**292.9**	154.4
Income taxes (recovery):			
Current	9	**63.4**	121.9
Deferred	9	**29.7**	(24.7)
		93.1	97.2
Income from continuing operations		**199.8**	57.2
Loss from discontinued operations	10	**(19.7)**	(81.6)
Net income (loss)		**$ 180.1**	$ (24.4)
Income from continuing operations attributable to			
Shareholders		**$ 165.6**	$ 29.0
Non-controlling interests		**34.2**	28.2
Net income (loss) attributable to			
Shareholders		**$ 151.8**	$ (30.1)
Non-controlling interests		**28.3**	5.7
Earnings per share attributable to shareholders	11		
Basic:			
From continuing operations		**$ 1.35**	$ 0.24
From discontinued operations		**(0.11)**	(0.48)
Net income (loss)		**1.24**	(0.24)
Diluted:			
From continuing operations		**1.18**	0.24
From discontinued operations		**(0.09)**	(0.48)
Net income (loss)		**1.09**	(0.24)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding (in millions)		**122.7**	123.0
Weighted average number of diluted shares (in millions)		**143.7**	123.0

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Note		2015		2014
Income from continuing operations		**$**	**199.8**	$	57.2
Other comprehensive loss from continuing operations:					
Items that may be reclassified to income:					
Cash flows hedges:					
Gain on valuation of derivative financial instruments			**14.0**		14.2
Deferred income taxes			**(41.6)**		(21.3)
Items that will not be reclassified to income:					
Defined benefit plans:					
Re-measurement loss	31		**(28.4)**		(46.0)
Deferred income taxes			**7.7**		12.3
Reclassification to income:					
Gain related to cash flows hedges	8		**(3.9)**		(10.8)
Deferred income taxes			**(0.4)**		0.4
			(52.6)		(51.2)
Comprehensive income from continuing operations			**147.2**		6.0
Loss from discontinued operations	10		**(19.7)**		(81.6)
Other comprehensive loss from discontinued operations	10		**–**		(7.6)
Comprehensive income (loss)		**$**	**127.5**	$	(83.2)
Comprehensive income (loss) from continuing operations attributable to					
Shareholders		**$**	**126.1**	$	(6.5)
Non-controlling interests			**21.1**		12.5
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to					
Shareholders		**$**	**112.3**	$	(71.4)
Non-controlling interests			**15.2**		(11.8)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Equity attributable to shareholders					
	Capital stock	Contributed surplus	Retained earnings	Accumulated other comprehensive loss	Equity attributable to non-controlling interests	Total equity
	(note 23)			(note 26)		
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 328.9	$ 2.3	$ 291.4	$ (23.1)	$ 595.9	$ 1,195.4
Net (loss) income	–	–	(30.1)	–	5.7	(24.4)
Other comprehensive loss	–	–	–	(41.3)	(17.5)	(58.8)
Repurchase of Class B Shares	(1.7)	–	(10.0)	–	–	(11.7)
Non-controlling interests acquisition	–	–	(0.1)	–	–	(0.1)
Dividends	–	–	(12.3)	–	(24.8)	(37.1)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	327.2	2.3	238.9	(64.4)	559.3	1,063.3
Net income	–	–	151.8	–	28.3	180.1
Other comprehensive loss	–	–	–	(39.5)	(13.1)	(52.6)
Dividends or distributions	–	–	(16.0)	–	(23.4)	(39.4)
Repurchase of Class B Shares	(1.6)	–	(10.8)	–	–	(12.4)
Issuance of shares of a subsidiary to non-controlling interests (note 12)	–	–	–	–	12.1	12.1
Non-controlling interests and business acquisitions (note 12)	–	–	(281.7)	(7.3)	(210.1)	(499.1)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ 325.6**	**$ 2.3**	**$ 82.2**	**$ (111.2)**	**$ 353.1**	**$ 652.0**

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Note	2015	2014
Cash flows related to operating activities			
Income from continuing operations		**$ 199.8**	$ 57.2
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	15	**595.2**	535.8
Amortization of intangible assets	16	**98.4**	125.3
(Gain) loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments	5	**(6.7)**	94.7
Impairment of goodwill and other assets	7	**230.7**	81.0
Loss on debt refinancing	8	**12.1**	18.7
Amortization of financing costs and long-term debt discount	4	**7.1**	8.7
Deferred income taxes	9	**29.7**	(24.7)
Other		**5.9**	2.7
		1,172.2	899.4
Net change in non-cash balances related to operating activities		**(100.0)**	61.3
Cash flows provided by continuing operating activities		**1,072.2**	960.7
Cash flows related to investing activities			
Non-controlling interests acquisitions	12	**(500.0)**	–
Business acquisitions	12	**(94.5)**	(132.3)
Business disposals	10	**316.3**	193.5
Additions to property, plant and equipment	15	**(678.6)**	(644.0)
Additions to intangible assets	16	**(360.6)**	(317.3)
Proceeds from disposals of assets		**4.6**	5.4
Other		**(12.6)**	0.5
Cash flows used in continuing investing activities		**(1,325.4)**	(894.2)
Cash flows related to financing activities			
Net change in bank indebtedness		**29.1**	4.7
Net change under revolving facilities		**227.1**	(22.9)
Issuance of long-term debt, net of financing fees	21	**370.1**	728.3
Repayments of long-term debt	8	**(653.3)**	(815.6)
Settlement of hedging contracts	8	**(34.3)**	(65.4)
Repurchase of Class B Shares	23	**(12.4)**	(11.7)
Issuance of shares of a subsidiary to non-controlling interests	12	**12.1**	–
Dividends		**(16.0)**	(12.3)
Dividends or distributions paid to non-controlling interests		**(23.4)**	(24.8)
Cash flows used in continuing financing activities		**(101.0)**	(219.7)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents from continuing operations		**$ (354.2)**	$ (153.2)

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (continued)

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Note	**2015**	2014
Net change in cash and cash equivalents from continuing operations		**$ (354.2)**	$ (153.2)
Cash flows (used in) provided by discontinued operations	10	**(22.5)**	71.9
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**395.3**	476.6
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**$ 18.6**	$ 395.3
Additional information on the consolidated statements of cash flows			
Cash and cash equivalents consist of			
Cash		**$ 17.0**	$ 155.9
Cash equivalents		**1.6**	239.4
		$ 18.6	$ 395.3
Changes in non-cash balances related to operating activities (excluding the effect of business acquisitions and disposals)			
Accounts receivable		**$ (15.4)**	$ 10.0
Inventories		**(44.5)**	7.2
Accounts payable, accrued charges and provisions		**31.5**	29.5
Income taxes		**(97.4)**	8.2
Deferred revenues		**21.0**	8.8
Defined benefit plans		**(3.8)**	(20.0)
Other		**8.6**	17.6
		$ (100.0)	$ 61.3
Non-cash investing activities			
Net change in additions to property, plant and equipment and intangible assets financed with accounts payable		**$ (12.7)**	$ 2.4
Interest and taxes reflected as operating activities			
Cash interest payments		**$ 305.7**	$ 336.8
Cash income tax payments (net of refunds)		**158.0**	124.9

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Note	**2015**	2014
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		**$ 18.6**	$ 395.3
Accounts receivable	13	**494.1**	449.4
Income taxes		**28.6**	6.7
Inventories	14	**215.5**	212.2
Prepaid expenses		**46.0**	38.0
Assets held for sale	10	**–**	398.1
		802.8	1,499.7
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	15	**3,424.9**	3,430.4
Intangible assets	16	**1,178.0**	945.8
Goodwill	17	**2,678.4**	2,714.6
Derivative financial instruments	29	**1,072.4**	400.9
Deferred income taxes	9	**29.5**	7.8
Other assets	18	**89.9**	79.3
		8,473.1	7,578.8
Total assets		**$ 9,275.9**	$ 9,078.5

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (continued)

December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Note	2015	2014
Liabilities and equity			
Current liabilities			
Bank indebtedness		**$ 34.3**	$ 5.2
Accounts payable and accrued charges	19	**654.9**	650.2
Provisions	20	**67.1**	56.7
Deferred revenue		**321.5**	283.0
Income taxes		**9.1**	85.5
Derivative financial instruments	29	**–**	0.9
Current portion of long-term debt	21	**44.0**	230.1
Liabilities held for sale	10	**–**	97.9
		1,130.9	1,409.5
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term debt	21	**5,812.4**	5,048.2
Derivative financial instruments	29	**118.7**	101.9
Convertible debentures	25	**500.0**	500.0
Other liabilities	22	**448.2**	426.8
Deferred income taxes	9	**613.7**	528.8
		7,493.0	6,605.7
Equity			
Capital stock	23	**325.6**	327.2
Contributed surplus		**2.3**	2.3
Retained earnings		**82.2**	238.9
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	26	**(111.2)**	(64.4)
Equity attributable to shareholders		**298.9**	504.0
Non-controlling interests		**353.1**	559.3
		652.0	1,063.3
Commitments and contingencies	20, 27		
Guarantees	28		
Subsequent event	32		
Total liabilities and equity		**$ 9,275.9**	$ 9,078.5

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

On March 8, 2016, the Board of Directors approved the consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, P.C., C.C., LL.D.,
Chairman of the Board

Jean La Couture,
Director

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

SEGMENTED INFORMATION

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

Quebecor Inc. (“Quebecor” or the “Corporation”) is incorporated under the laws of Québec. The Corporation’s head office and registered office is located at 612 rue Saint-Jacques, Montréal (Québec), Canada. Quebecor is a holding corporation with interests in Quebecor Media Inc. (“Quebecor Media”) and in subsidiaries controlled by Quebecor Media. The percentages of voting rights and equity in Quebecor Media and in its major subsidiaries are as follows:

	% voting	% equity
Quebecor Media Inc.	81.1 %	81.1 %
Quebecor Media Inc. interest in its major subsidiaries		
Videotron Ltd.	100.0 %	100.0 %
TVA Group Inc.	99.9 %	68.4 %
MediaQMI Inc.	100.0 %	100.0 %
QMI Spectacles Inc.	100.0 %	100.0 %

The Corporation operates, through its subsidiaries, in the following industry segments: Telecommunications, Media, and Sports and Entertainment. The Telecommunications segment offers television distribution, Internet access, business solutions, cable and mobile telephony and over-the-top video services in Canada and is engaged in the rental of movies, televisual products and video games through its video-on-demand service and rental stores. The operations of the Media segment in Québec include the operation of an over-the-air television network, the operation of specialty television services, the operation of studio rental, soundstage and equipment leasing and post-production services for the film and television industries, the printing, publishing and distribution of daily newspapers, the operation of Internet portals and specialized sites, the publishing of books and magazines, the distribution of books, magazines and movies, the distribution and production of music, and the operation of an out-of-home advertising business. The activities of the Sports and Entertainment segment in Québec encompass the operation and management of the Videotron Centre in Québec City, show production, sporting and cultural events management, and the operation of two Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (“QMJHL”) teams.

In the fourth quarter of 2015, the Corporation changed its organizational structure and transferred its music distribution and production operations from the Sports and Entertainment segment to the Media segment. Accordingly, prior period figures in the Corporation’s segmented information have been reclassified to reflect those changes.

These segments are managed separately since they all require specific market strategies. The accounting policies of each segment are the same as the accounting policies used for the consolidated financial statements. Segment income includes income from sales to third parties and inter-segment sales. Transactions between segments are measured at exchange amounts between the parties.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES
SEGMENTED INFORMATION (continued)

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Telecommuni-cations	Media	Sports and Entertainment	Head Office and Inter-segments	Total
					2015
Revenues	**$ 3,007.0**	**$ 964.5**	**$ 23.2**	**$ (115.2)**	**$ 3,879.5**
Employee costs	**359.4**	**285.3**	**11.0**	**41.7**	**697.4**
Purchase of goods and services	**1,261.8**	**609.0**	**23.9**	**(153.3)**	**1,741.4**
Adjusted operating income[1]	**1,385.8**	**70.2**	**(11.7)**	**(3.6)**	**1,440.7**
Depreciation and amortization					**693.6**
Financial expenses					**335.0**
Gain on valuation and translation of financial instruments					**(6.7)**
Gain on litigation, restructuring of operations and other items					**(116.9)**
Impairment of goodwill and other assets					**230.7**
Loss on debt refinancing					**12.1**
Income before income taxes					**$ 292.9**
Additions to property, plant and equipment	**$ 630.2**	**$ 36.0**	**$ 12.0**	**$ 0.4**	**$ 678.6**
Additions to intangible assets	**312.3**	**9.3**	**34.6**	**4.4**	**360.6**

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

QUEBECOR INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

SEGMENTED INFORMATION (continued)

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014
(in millions of Canadian dollars)

	Telecommuni-cations	Media	Sports and Entertainment	Head Office and Inter-segments	Total
					2014
Revenues	$ 2,837.3	$ 851.7	$ 7.1	$ (88.4)	$ 3,607.7
Employee costs	345.1	258.8	4.2	40.5	648.6
Purchase of goods and services	1,139.0	534.5	5.7	(129.9)	1,549.3
Adjusted operating income[1]	1,353.2	58.4	(2.8)	1.0	1,409.8
Depreciation and amortization					661.1
Financial expenses					350.3
Loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments					94.7
Loss on litigation, restructuring of operations and other items					49.6
Impairment of goodwill and other assets					81.0
Loss on debt refinancing					18.7
Income before income taxes					$ 154.4
Additions to property, plant and equipment	$ 606.1	$ 32.1	$ 5.3	$ 0.5	$ 644.0
Additions to intangible assets	304.7	9.3	0.1	3.2	317.3

[1] The Chief Executive Officer uses adjusted operating income as the measure of profit to assess the performance of each segment. Adjusted operating income is referred to as a non-International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") measure and is defined as net income (loss) before depreciation and amortization, financial expenses, (gain) loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments, (gain) loss on litigation, restructuring of operations and other items, impairment of goodwill and other assets, loss on debt refinancing, income taxes and loss from discontinued operations.

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for certain financial instruments (note 1(k) and 1(w)), the liability related to stock-based compensation (note 1(u)) and the net defined benefit liability (note 1(v)), and they are presented in Canadian dollars ("CAN dollars"), which is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Corporation and its subsidiaries operate ("functional currency").

Comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2014 have been restated to conform to the presentation adopted for the year ended December 31, 2015.

(b) Change in accounting estimates

In the second quarter of 2015, the Corporation changed its assessment of the useful life of its spectrum licences used in the operation of its Telecommunications segment. In light of recent spectrum auctions and developments in the telecommunications industry, the Corporation is now of the view that these spectrum licences have an indefinite useful life based on the following facts:

- The Corporation intends to renew the spectrum licences and believes that they are likely to be renewed by Innovation, Science and Economic Development ("ISED") Canada;
- The Corporation has the financial and operational ability to renew these spectrum licences;
- Currently, the competitive, legal and regulatory landscape does not limit the useful lives of the spectrum licences;
- The Corporation foresees no limit to the period during which these licences can be expected to generate cash flows in the future.

Accordingly, the Corporation ceased to amortize spectrum licences used in its operations as of April 1, 2015 and no amortization expense has been recorded after this date. The straight-line amortization expense recorded relating to these licences was $13.9 million in 2015 ($55.4 million in 2014).

(c) Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Corporation and its subsidiaries. Intercompany transactions and balances are eliminated on consolidation.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Corporation. Control is achieved when the Corporation is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

Non-controlling interests in the net assets and results of consolidated subsidiaries are identified separately from the parent corporation's ownership interest in them. Non-controlling interests in the equity of a subsidiary consist of the amount of non-controlling interests calculated at the date of the original business combination and their share of changes in equity since that date. Changes in non-controlling interests in a subsidiary that do not result in a loss of control by the Corporation are accounted for as equity transactions.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(d) Business combinations

A business combination is accounted for by the acquisition method. The cost of an acquisition is measured at the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for control of the business acquired at the acquisition date. This consideration can be comprised of cash, assets transferred, financial instruments issued, or future contingent payments. The identifiable assets and liabilities of the business acquired are recognized at their fair value at the acquisition date. Results of operations of a business acquired are included in the Corporation's consolidated financial statements from the date of the business acquisition. Business acquisition and integration costs are expensed as incurred and included as other items in the consolidated statements of income.

Non-controlling interests in an entity acquired are presented in the consolidated balance sheets within equity, separately from the equity attributable to shareholders, and are initially measured at fair value.

(e) Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated to the functional currency by applying the exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transactions. Translation gains and losses on assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are included in financial expenses, or in gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments, unless hedge accounting is used.

Financial statements of the foreign operations disposed of in 2014 (note 10) were translated using the rate in effect at the balance sheet date for assets and liabilities, and using the average exchange rates during the period for revenues and expenses.

(f) Revenue recognition

The Corporation recognizes operating revenues when the following criteria are met:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- the receipt of economic benefits associated with the transaction is probable;
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably;
- the stage of completion can be measured reliably where services have been rendered; and
- significant risks and rewards of ownership, including effective control, have been transferred to the buyer where goods have been sold.

The portion of revenue that is unearned is recorded under "Deferred revenue" when customers are invoiced.

<u>Telecommunications</u>

The Telecommunications segment provides services under arrangements with multiple deliverables, for which there are two separate accounting units: one for subscriber services (cable television, Internet access, cable or mobile telephony, over-the-top video, including connection costs and rental of equipment); the other for equipment sales to subscribers. Components of multiple deliverable arrangements are separately accounted for, provided the delivered elements have stand-alone value to the customer and the fair value of any undelivered elements can be objectively and reliably determined. Arrangement consideration is allocated among the separate accounting units based on their relative fair values.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(f) Revenue recognition (continued)

Telecommunications (continued)

The Telecommunications segment recognizes each of its main activities' revenues as follows:

- Operating revenues from cable and other services, such as cable television, Internet access, cable and mobile telephony, and over-the-top video are recognized when services are provided. Promotional offers and rebates are accounted for as a reduction in the service revenue to which they relate;
- Revenues from equipment sales to subscribers and their costs are recognized in income when the equipment is delivered. Promotional offers related to equipment, with the exclusion of mobile devices, are accounted for as a reduction in related equipment sales on delivery, while promotional offers related to the sale of mobile devices are accounted for as a reduction in related equipment sales on activation;
- Operating revenues related to service contracts are recognized in income over the life of the specific contracts on a straight-line basis over the period in which the services are provided;
- Cable connection revenues are deferred and recognized as revenues over the estimated average period that subscribers are expected to remain connected to the network. The incremental and direct costs related to cable connection costs, in an amount not exceeding the revenue, are deferred and recognized as an operating expense over the same period. The excess of those costs over the related revenues is recognized immediately in income.

Media

The Media segment recognizes each of its main activities' revenues as follows:

- Advertising revenues are recognized when the advertising is aired on television, is featured in newspapers or magazines or is displayed on the digital properties or on transit shelters;
- Revenues from subscriptions to specialty television channels or to online publications are recognized on a monthly basis at the time service is provided or over the period of the subscription;
- Revenues from the sale or distribution of newspapers, magazines, books and entertainment products are recognized upon delivery, net of provisions for estimated returns based on historical rate of returns;
- Studio, soundstage and equipment leasing revenues are recognized over the rental period;
- Revenues derived from speciality film and television services are recognized when services are provided.

Sports and Entertainment

The Sports and Entertainment segment recognizes each of its main activities' revenues as follows:

- Revenues from leasing, and from ticket, food and beverage sales at the Videotron Centre are recognized when the events take place and/or goods are sold, as the case may be;
- Revenues derived from sporting and cultural event management are recognized when services are provided.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(g) Impairment of assets

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped in cash-generating units ("CGUs"), which represent the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows generated by those assets. The Corporation reviews, at each balance sheet date, whether events or circumstances have occurred to indicate that the carrying amounts of its long-lived assets with finite useful lives may be less than their recoverable amounts. Goodwill, other intangible assets having an indefinite useful life, and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment each financial year, as well as whenever there is an indication that the carrying amount of the asset, or the CGU to which an asset has been allocated, exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use of the asset or the CGU. Fair value less costs of disposal represents the amount an entity could obtain at the valuation date from the asset's disposal in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, after deducting the costs of disposal. The value in use represents the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset or the CGU.

An impairment loss is recognized in the amount by which the carrying amount of an asset or a CGU exceeds its recoverable amount. When the recoverable amount of a CGU to which goodwill has been allocated is lower than the CGU's carrying amount, the related goodwill is first impaired. Any excess amount of impairment is recognized and attributed to assets in the CGU, prorated to the carrying amount of each asset in the CGU.

An impairment loss recognized in prior periods for long-lived assets with finite useful lives and intangible assets having an indefinite useful life, other than goodwill, can be reversed through the consolidated statement of income to the extent that the resulting carrying value does not exceed the carrying value that would have been the result if no impairment loss had previously been recognized.

(h) Barter transactions

In the normal course of operations, the Corporation principally offers advertising in exchange for goods and services. Revenues thus earned and expenses incurred are accounted for on the basis of the fair value of goods and services provided.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation recorded $10.3 million of barter advertising revenues ($14.5 million in 2014).

(i) Income taxes

Current income taxes are recognized with respect to amounts expected to be paid or recovered under the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the liability method. Under this method, deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated future tax consequences attributable to differences between the carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities in the consolidated financial statements and their respective tax bases. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted or substantively enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred income tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the substantive enactment date. A deferred tax asset is recognized initially when it is probable that future taxable income will be sufficient to use the related tax benefits and may be subsequently reduced, if necessary, to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized. A deferred tax expense or benefit is recognized in other comprehensive income or otherwise directly in equity to the extent that it relates to items that are recognized in other comprehensive income or directly in equity in the same or a different period.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(i) Income taxes (continued)

In the course of the Corporation's operations, there are a number of uncertain tax positions due to the complexity of certain transactions and due to the fact that related tax interpretations and legislation are continually changing. When a tax position is uncertain, the Corporation recognizes an income tax benefit or reduces an income tax liability only when it is probable that the tax benefit will be realized in the future or that the income tax liability is no longer probable.

(j) Leases

Assets under leasing agreements are classified at the inception of the lease as (i) finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to the lessee, or as (ii) operating leases for all other leases.

Operating lease rentals are recognized in the consolidated statement of income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease. Any lessee incentives are deferred and then recognized evenly over the lease term.

(k) Financial instruments

Classification, recognition and measurement

Financial instruments are classified as held-for-trading, available-for-sale, loans and receivables, or as other financial liabilities, and measurement in subsequent periods depends on their classification. The Corporation has classified its financial instruments (except derivative financial instruments) as follows:

Held-for-trading	Loans and receivables	Available-for-sale	Other liabilities
• Cash and cash equivalents • Bank indebtedness • Exchangeable debentures included in "Other liabilities"	• Accounts receivable • Loans and other long-term receivables included in "Other assets"	• Other portfolio investments included in "Other assets"	• Accounts payable and accrued charges • Provisions • Long-term debt • Convertible debentures • Other long-term financial liabilities included in "Other liabilities"

Financial instruments held-for-trading are measured at fair value with changes recognized in income as a gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments. Available-for-sale portfolio investments are measured at fair value or at cost in the case of equity investments that do not have a quoted market price in an active market and where fair value is insufficiently reliable, and changes in fair value are recorded in other comprehensive income. Financial assets classified as loans and receivables and financial liabilities classified as "Other liabilities" are initially measured at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost, using the effective interest rate method of amortization. Liabilities recognized as a result of contingent consideration arising from a business acquisition and included in "Other liabilities", are initially recorded at their acquisition-date fair value and re-measured at fair value in subsequent periods. These changes in fair value are recorded in the consolidated statements of income as other items.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(k) Financial instruments (continued)

Derivative financial instruments and hedge accounting

The Corporation uses various derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The Corporation does not hold or use any derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes. Under hedge accounting, the Corporation documents all hedging relationships between hedging items and hedged items, as well as its strategy for using hedges and its risk-management objective. It also designates its derivative financial instruments as either fair value hedges or cash flow hedges when they qualify for hedge accounting. The Corporation assesses the effectiveness of derivative financial instruments when the hedge is put in place and on an ongoing basis.

The Corporation generally enters into the following types of derivative financial instruments:

- The Corporation uses foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge foreign currency rate exposure on anticipated equipment or inventory purchases in a foreign currency. The Corporation also uses offsetting foreign exchange forward contracts in combination with cross-currency interest rate swaps to hedge foreign currency rate exposure on interest and principal payments on foreign currency denominated debt. These foreign exchange forward contracts are designated as cash flow hedges.
- The Corporation uses cross-currency interest rate swaps to hedge (i) foreign currency rate exposure on interest and principal payments on foreign currency denominated debt and/or (ii) fair value exposure on certain debt resulting from changes in interest rates. The cross-currency interest rate swaps that set all future interest and principal payments on U.S.-dollar-denominated debt in fixed CAN dollars, in addition to converting an interest rate from a floating rate to a floating rate or from a fixed rate to a fixed rate, are designated as cash flow hedges. The cross-currency interest rate swaps are designated as fair value hedges when they set all future interest and principal payments on U.S.-dollar-denominated debt in fixed CAN dollars, in addition to converting the interest rate from a fixed rate to a floating rate.
- The Corporation uses interest rate swaps to manage fair value exposure on certain debts resulting from changes in interest rates. These swap agreements require a periodic exchange of payments without the exchange of the notional principal amount on which the payments are based. These interest rate swaps are designated as fair value hedges when they convert the interest rate from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or as cash flow hedges when they convert the interest rate from a floating rate to a fixed rate.

Under hedge accounting, the Corporation applies the following accounting policies:

- For derivative financial instruments designated as fair value hedges, changes in the fair value of the hedging derivative recorded in income are substantially offset by changes in the fair value of the hedged item to the extent that the hedging relationship is effective. When a fair value hedge is discontinued, the carrying value of the hedged item is no longer adjusted and the cumulative fair value adjustments to the carrying value of the hedged item are amortized to income over the remaining term of the original hedging relationship.
- For derivative financial instruments designated as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of a hedge is reported in other comprehensive income until it is recognized in income during the same period in which the hedged item affects income, while the ineffective portion is immediately recognized in income. When a cash flow hedge is discontinued, the amounts previously recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income are reclassified to income when the variability in the cash flows of the hedged item affects income.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(k) Financial instruments (continued)

Derivative financial instruments and hedge accounting (continued)

Any change in the fair value of the derivative financial instruments recorded in income is included in gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments. Interest expense on hedged long-term debt is reported at the hedged interest and foreign currency rates.

Derivative financial instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting, including derivatives that are embedded in financial or non-financial contracts that are not closely related to the host contracts, such as early settlement options on long term-debt, are reported on a fair value basis in the consolidated balance sheets. Any change in the fair value of these derivative financial instruments is recorded in the consolidated statements of income as a gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments.

Early settlement options are accounted for separately from the debt when the corresponding option exercise price is not approximately equal to the amortized cost of the debt.

(l) Financing fees

Financing fees related to long-term debt are capitalized in reduction of long-term debt and amortized using the effective interest rate method.

(m) Tax credits and government assistance

The Corporation has access to several government programs designed to support production and distribution of televisual products and movies, as well as music products, magazine and book publishing in Canada. In addition, the Corporation receives tax credits mainly related to its research and development activities, publishing activities and digital activities. Government financial assistance is accounted for as revenue or as a reduction in related costs, whether capitalized and amortized or expensed, in the year the costs are incurred and when management has reasonable assurance that the conditions of the government programs are met.

(n) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid investments purchased three months or less from maturity and are recorded at fair value. These highly liquid investments consisted mainly of Bankers' acceptances and term deposits.

(o) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are stated at their nominal value, less an allowance for doubtful accounts and an allowance for sales returns. The Corporation establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts based on the specific credit risk of its customers and historical trends. Individual accounts receivables are written off when management deems them not collectible.

(p) Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost, determined by the first-in, first-out method or the weighted-average cost method, and net realizable value. Net realizable value represents the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale. When the circumstances that previously caused inventories to be written down below cost no longer exist, the amount of the write-down is reversed.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(p) Inventories (continued)

In particular, inventories related to broadcasting activities, which primarily comprise programs and broadcast and distribution rights, are accounted for as follows:

(i) Programs produced and productions in progress

Programs produced and productions in progress related to broadcasting activities are accounted for at the lesser of cost and net realizable value. Cost includes direct charges for goods and services and the share of labour and general expenses related to each production. The cost of each program is charged to operating expenses when the program is broadcast.

(ii) Broadcast and distribution rights

Broadcast rights are essentially contractual rights allowing the limited or unlimited broadcast of televisual products or movies. Distribution rights include costs to acquire distribution rights for televisual products and movies and other operating costs incurred that generate future economic benefits. The Corporation records the rights acquired as inventory and the obligations incurred under a licence agreement as a liability when the broadcast or distribution period begins and all of the following conditions have been met: (a) the cost of the licence for each program, movies, series or right to broadcast a live event is known or can be reasonably determined; (b) the programs, movies or series have been accepted or the live event is broadcast in accordance with the conditions of the licence agreement; (c) the programs, movies or series are available for distribution, first showing or telecast, or when the live event is broadcast.

Amounts paid for broadcast and distribution rights before all of the above conditions are met are recorded as prepaid rights.

Broadcast and distribution rights are classified as current or long-term assets, based on management's estimate of the broadcast or distribution period. These rights are charged to operating expenses when televisual products and movies are broadcast over the contract period, using a method based on how future economic benefits from those rights will be generated. Broadcast and distribution rights payable are classified as current or long-term liabilities based on the payment terms included in the licence.

Estimates of future revenues used to determine the net realizable values of inventories related to the broadcasting or distribution of television products and movies are examined periodically by management and revised as necessary. The carrying value of programs produced and productions in progress, broadcast rights and distribution rights is reduced to the net realizable value, as necessary, based on this assessment.

(q) Long-term investments

Investments in companies subject to significant influence are accounted for using the equity method. Under the equity method, the share of the results of operations of the associated corporation is recorded in the consolidated statement of income. Carrying values of investments are reduced to estimated fair values if there is objective evidence that the investment is impaired.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(r) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost. Cost represents the acquisition costs, net of government grants and investment tax credits, or construction costs, including preparation, installation and testing costs. In the case of projects to construct cable and mobile networks, the cost includes equipment, direct labour and related overhead costs. Projects under development may also be comprised of advance payments made to suppliers for equipment under construction.

Borrowing costs are also included in the cost of property, plant and equipment during the development phase. Expenditures, such as maintenance and repairs, are expensed as incurred.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Estimated useful life
Buildings and leasehold improvements	10 to 40 years
Machinery and equipment	3 to 20 years
Telecommunication networks	3 to 20 years

Depreciation methods, residual values, and the useful lives of significant property, plant and equipment are reviewed at least once a year. Any change is accounted for prospectively as a change in accounting estimate.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the term of the lease and their estimated useful life.

The Corporation does not record any decommissioning obligations in connection with its cable distribution networks. The Corporation expects to renew all of its agreements with utility companies to access their support structures in the future, making the retirement date so far into the future that the present value of the restoration costs is insignificant for those assets. A decommissioning obligation is however recorded for the rental of sites related to the mobile network.

Videotron Ltd. (“Videotron”) is engaged in an agreement to operate a shared LTE network in the Province of Québec and in the Ottawa region.

(s) Goodwill and intangible assets

Goodwill

Goodwill initially arising from a business acquisition is measured and recognized as the excess of the fair value of the consideration paid over the fair value of the recognized identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. When the Corporation acquires less than 100% of the equity interests in the business acquired at the acquisition date, goodwill attributable to the non-controlling interests is also recognized at fair value.

Goodwill is allocated as at the date of a business acquisition to a CGU for purposes of impairment testing (note 1(g)). The allocation is made to the CGU or group of CGUs expected to benefit from the synergies of the business acquisition.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(s) Goodwill and intangible assets (continued)

Intangible assets

Spectrum licences are recorded at cost. Spectrum licences have an indefinite useful life and are not amortized based on the following facts: (i) the Corporation intends to renew the spectrum licences and believes that they are likely to be renewed by ISED Canada, (ii) the Corporation has the financial and operational ability to renew these spectrum licences, (iii) currently, the competitive, legal and regulatory landscape does not limit the useful lives of the spectrum licences and (iv) the Corporation foresees no limit to the period during which these licences can be expected to generate cash flows in the future (note 1 (b)).

Broadcasting licences, mastheads and sport franchises have also an indefinite useful life and are not amortized. In particular, given the low cost of renewal of broadcasting licences, management believes it is economically compelling to renew the licences and to comply with all rules and conditions attached to those licences. These intangibles assets are recorded at cost or at fair value at the acquisition date if they are acquired through a business acquisition.

Software is recorded at cost. In particular, internally generated intangible assets such as software and website development are mainly comprised of internal costs in connection with the development of those assets to be used internally or to provide services to customers. These costs are capitalized when the development stage of the software application begins and costs incurred prior to that stage are recognized as expenses.

Naming rights for the Videotron Centre in Québec City are recognized at cost.

Customer relationships acquired through a business acquisition are recorded at fair value at the date of acquisition.

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, development or production of an intangible asset are also included as part of the cost of that asset during the development phase.

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortized over their useful lives using the straight-line method over the following periods:

Assets	Estimated useful life
Software	3 to 7 years
Naming rights	25 years
Customer relationships and other	3 to 10 years

Amortization methods, residual values, and the useful lives of significant intangible assets are reviewed at least once a year. Any change is accounted for prospectively as a change in accounting estimate.

(t) Provisions

Provisions are recognized when (i) the Corporation has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and when (ii) the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated. Restructuring costs, comprised primarily of termination benefits, are recognized when a detailed plan for the restructuring exists and a valid expectation has been raised in those affected, that the plan will be carried out.

Provisions are reviewed at each balance sheet date and changes in estimates are reflected in the consolidated statement of income in the reporting period in which changes occur.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(u) Stock-based compensation

Stock-based awards to employees that call for settlement in cash or other assets at the option of the employee are accounted for at fair value and classified as a liability. The compensation cost is recognized in expenses over the vesting period. Changes in the fair value of stock-based awards between the grant date and the measurement date result in a change in the liability and compensation cost.

Estimates of the fair value of stock option awards are determined by applying an option pricing model, taking into account the terms and conditions of the grant. Key assumptions are described in note 24.

(v) Pension plans and postretirement benefits

The Corporation offers defined contribution pension plans and defined benefit pension plans to some of its employees.

(i) Defined contribution pension plans

Under its defined contribution pension plans, the Corporation pays fixed contributions to participating employees' pension plans and has no legal or constructive obligation to pay any further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognized as employee benefits in the consolidated statements of income when the contributions become due.

(ii) Defined benefit pension plans and postretirement plans

Defined benefit pension plan costs are determined using actuarial methods and are accounted for using the projected unit credit method, which incorporates management's best estimates of future salary levels, other cost escalations, retirement ages of employees, and other actuarial factors. Defined benefit pension costs, recognized in the consolidated statements of income as employee costs, mainly include the following:

- service costs provided in exchange for employee services rendered during the period;
- prior service costs recognized at the earlier of (a) when the employee benefit plan is amended or (b) when restructuring costs are recognized;
- curtailment or settlement gain or loss.

Interest on net defined benefit liability or asset, recognized in the consolidated statements of income as financial expenses, is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability or asset by the discount rate used to determine the defined benefit obligation.

Re-measurements of the net defined benefit liability or asset are recognized immediately in other comprehensive loss and in accumulated other comprehensive loss. Re-measurements are comprised of the following:

- actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in financial and demographic actuarial assumptions used to determine the defined benefit obligation or from experience adjustments on liabilities;
- the difference between actual return on plan assets and interest income on plan assets anticipated as part of the interest on net defined benefit liability or asset calculation;
- changes in the net benefit asset limit or in the minimum funding liability.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(v) Pension plans and postretirement benefits (continued)

(ii) Defined benefit pension plans and postretirement plans (continued)

Recognition of a net benefit asset is limited under certain circumstances to the amount recoverable, which is primarily based on the present value of future contributions to the plan, to the extent that the Corporation can unilaterally reduce those future contributions. In addition, an adjustment to the net benefit asset or the net benefit liability can be recorded to reflect a minimum funding liability in a certain number of the Corporation's pension plans.

The Corporation also offers discounts on telecommunication services, health, life and dental insurance plans to some of its retired employees. The cost of postretirement benefits is determined using an accounting methodology similar to that for defined benefit pension plans. The benefits related to these plans are funded by the Corporation as they become due.

(w) Convertible debentures

The convertible debentures are accounted for as a financial liability and the cap and floor conversion prices features are accounted for separately as embedded derivatives. The embedded derivatives are measured at fair value and any subsequent change in the fair value is recorded in the consolidated statements of income as a gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments.

(x) Use of estimates and judgments

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, related amounts of revenues and expenses, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Although these estimates are based on management's best judgment and information available at the time of the assessment date, actual results could differ from those estimates.

The following significant areas represent management's most difficult, subjective or complex estimates:

(i) Recoverable amount of an asset or a CGU

When an impairment test is performed on an asset or a CGU, management estimates the recoverable amount of the asset or CGU based on its fair value less costs of disposal or its value in use. These estimates are based on valuation models requiring the use of a number of assumptions such as forecast of future cash flows, pre-tax discount rate (WACC) and perpetual growth rate. These assumptions have a significant impact on the results of impairment tests and on the impairment charge, as the case may be, recorded in the consolidated statements of income. A description of key assumptions used in the goodwill impairment tests and a sensitivity analysis of recoverable amounts are presented in note 17.

(ii) Fair value of derivative financial instruments, including embedded derivatives

Derivative financial instruments must be accounted for at their fair value, which is estimated using valuation models based on a number of assumptions such as future cash flows, period-end swap rates, foreign exchange rates, and credit default premium. Also, the fair value of embedded derivatives related to convertible debentures and to early settlement options on debt is determined with option pricing models using market inputs, including volatility, discount factors and the underlying instrument's adjusted implicit interest rate and credit premium. The assumptions used in the valuation models have a significant impact on the gain or loss on valuation and translation of financial instruments recorded in the consolidated statements of income, the gain or loss on valuation of financial instruments recorded in the consolidated statements of comprehensive income, and the carrying value of derivative financial instruments in the consolidated balance sheets. A description of valuation models used and sensitivity analysis on key assumptions are presented in note 29.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(x) Use of estimates and judgments (continued)

(iii) Costs and obligations related to pension and postretirement benefit plans

Estimates of costs and obligations related to pension and postretirement benefit obligations are based on a number of assumptions, such as the discount rate, the rate of increase in compensation, the retirement age of employees, health care costs, and other actuarial factors. Certain of these assumptions may have a significant impact on employee costs and financial expenses recorded in the consolidated statements of income, the re-measurement gain or loss on defined benefit plans recorded in the consolidated statements of comprehensive income, and on the carrying value of other assets or other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets. Key assumptions and a sensitivity analysis on the discount rate are presented in note 31.

(iv) Provisions

The recognition of provisions requires management to estimate expenditures required to settle a present obligation or to transfer it to a third party at the date of assessment. More specifically, an assessment of the probable outcomes of legal proceedings or other contingencies is also required. A description of the main provisions, including management expectations on the potential effect on the consolidated financial statements of the possible outcomes of legal disputes, is presented in note 20.

The following areas represent management's most significant judgments, apart from those involving estimates:

(i) Useful life periods for the depreciation and amortization of assets with finite useful lives

For each class of assets with finite useful lives, management has to determine over which period the Corporation will consume the assets' future economic benefits. The determination of a useful life period involves judgment and has an impact on the depreciation and amortization charge recorded in the consolidated statements of income.

(ii) Indefinite useful life of spectrum licences

Management has concluded that spectrum licences have an indefinite useful life. This conclusion was based on an analysis of factors, such as the Corporation's financial ability to renew the spectrum licences, the competitive, legal and regulatory landscape, and the future expectation regarding the use of the spectrum licences. Therefore, the determination that spectrum licences have an indefinite useful life involves judgment, which could have an impact on the amortization charge recorded in the consolidated statements of income if management changed its conclusion in the future, as it did in 2015 (note 1 (b)).

(iii) CGU's determination for the purpose of impairment tests

The determination of CGUs requires judgment when determining the lowest level for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows generated by the group of assets. In identifying assets to group in CGUs, the Corporation considers, among other factors, offering bundled services, sharing telecommunication or broadcasting network infrastructure, integration of media assets, geographical proximity, similarity on exposure to market risk, and materiality. The determination of CGUs could affect the results of impairment tests and, as the case may be, the impairment charge recorded in the consolidated statements of income.

(iv) Determination if early settlement options are not closely related to their debt contract

Early settlement options are not considered closely related to their debt contract when the corresponding option exercise price is not approximately equal to the amortized cost of the debt. Judgment is therefore required to determine if an option exercise price is not approximately equal to the amortized cost of the debt. This determination may have a significant impact on the amount of gains or losses on valuation and translation of financial instruments recorded in the consolidated statements of income.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(x) Use of estimates and judgments (continued)

(v) Interpretation of laws and regulations

Interpretation of laws and regulation, including tax regulations, requires judgment from management that could have an impact on the recognition of provisions for legal litigation and income taxes in the consolidated financial statements.

(y) Recent accounting pronouncements

The Corporation has not yet completed its assessment of the impact of the adoption of these pronouncements on its consolidated financial statements.

(i) IFRS 9 – *Financial Instruments* is required to be applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with early adoption permitted.

IFRS 9 simplifies the measurement and classification of financial assets by reducing the number of measurement categories in IAS 39, *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*. The new standard also provides for a fair value option in the designation of a non-derivative financial liability and its related classification and measurement, as well as for a new hedge accounting model more closely aligned with risk-management activities undertaken by entities.

(ii) IFRS 15 – *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* is required to be applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with early adoption permitted.

IFRS 15 specifies how and when an entity will recognize revenue as well as requiring such entities to provide users of financial statements with more informative disclosures. The standard provides a single, principles based, five-step model to be applied to all contracts with customers.

(iii) IFRS 16 – *Leases* is required to be applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019, with early adoption permitted provided that the IFRS 15 has been applied or is applied at the same time as IFRS 16.

IFRS 16 sets out the new principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of leases for both parties to a contract. The standard provides lessees with a single accounting model for all leases, with certain exemptions. In particular, lessees will be required to report most leases on their balance sheets by recognizing right-of-use assets and related financial liabilities.

2. REVENUES

The breakdown of revenues between services rendered and product sales is as follows:

	2015	2014
Services rendered	**$ 3,504.2**	$ 3,245.5
Product sales	**375.3**	362.2
	$ 3,879.5	$ 3,607.7

3. EMPLOYEE COSTS AND PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

The main components are as follows:

	2015	2014
Employee costs	$ 874.0	$ 805.6
Less employee costs capitalized to property, plant and equipment and to intangible assets	(176.6)	(157.0)
	697.4	648.6
Purchase of goods and services:		
Royalties, rights and creation costs	729.3	662.2
Cost of products sold	306.7	252.2
Service contracts	159.7	151.4
Marketing, circulation and distribution expenses	97.5	81.3
Building expenses	78.8	65.5
Other	369.4	336.7
	1,741.4	1,549.3
	$ 2,438.8	$ 2,197.9

4. FINANCIAL EXPENSES

	2015	2014
Interest on long-term debt and on debentures	$ 311.6	$ 338.9
Amortization of financing costs and long-term debt discount	7.1	8.7
Interest on net defined benefit liability	5.9	5.1
Loss on foreign currency translation on short-term monetary items	6.4	4.0
Other	4.0	(6.4)
	$ 335.0	$ 350.3

5. (GAIN) LOSS ON VALUATION AND TRANSLATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	2015	2014
Loss on embedded derivatives related to long-term debt and derivative financial instruments for which hedge accounting is not used	$ 6.2	$ 7.9
(Gain) loss on embedded derivatives related to convertible debentures	(10.5)	91.6
Gain on reversal of embedded derivatives on debt redemption	(0.4)	(1.1)
Loss (gain) on the ineffective portion of cash flow hedges	1.6	(0.5)
Gain on the ineffective portion of fair value hedges	(3.6)	(3.2)
	$ (6.7)	$ 94.7

6. (GAIN) LOSS ON LITIGATION, RESTRUCTURING OF OPERATIONS AND OTHER ITEMS

	2015	2014
(Gain) loss on litigation	**$ (138.1)**	$ 34.3
Restructuring of operations	**19.2**	9.0
Other items	**2.0**	6.3
	$ (116.9)	$ 49.6

(Gain) loss on litigation

On March 6, 2015, the Court of Appeal of Quebec ruled in favour of Videotron and TVA Group Inc. ("TVA Group"), and ordered Bell ExpressVu Limited Partnership ("Bell ExpressVu"), a subsidiary of Bell Canada, to pay Videotron $135.3 million and TVA Group $0.6 million, including interest, for negligence in failing to implement an appropriate security system to prevent piracy of the signals broadcast by its satellite television service between 1999 and 2005, thereby harming its competitors and broadcasters. On October 15, 2015, the Supreme Court of Canada rejected Bell ExpressVu's application for leave to appeal the judgment. The related $139.1 million gain was recorded in 2015.

In 2014, a charge of $34.3 million, including interest, was accounted for as a result of an unfavorable judgment against Videotron in a legal action. Videotron is currently appealing this judgment. $1.0 million in interest relating to this litigation was recorded in 2015.

Restructuring of operations and other items

In 2015, the Telecommunications segment recorded a charge for restructuring costs of $8.8 million, mainly related to the migration of its subscribers from analog to digital services ($1.8 million in 2014), and a charge for other items of $0.3 million ($3.4 million in 2014).

The Media segment has implemented various restructuring initiatives to reduce operating costs and, as a result, restructuring costs of $9.8 million, mainly for the reduction of positions, were recorded in 2015 ($6.5 million in 2014). In 2015, the Media segment also recorded a charge for other items of $0.7 million, mainly related to business acquisitions ($2.7 million in 2014).

In 2015, other segments recorded a charge for restructuring costs of $0.6 million ($0.7 million in 2014), and a charge for other items of $1.0 million ($0.2 million in 2014).

7. IMPAIRMENT OF GOODWILL AND OTHER ASSETS

	2015	2014
Impairment of goodwill	**$ 85.0**	$ 39.3
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	**76.5**	–
Impairment of intangible assets	**69.2**	41.7
	$ 230.7	$ 81.0

7. IMPAIRMENT OF GOODWILL AND OTHER ASSETS (continued)

2015

In 2015, the Corporation performed impairment tests on its CGUs and concluded that the recoverable amounts of its Newspapers and Broadcasting CGUs were less than their carrying values. The recoverable amounts of these CGUs were negatively impacted by the decrease in newspaper and commercial printing volumes at the Mirabel printing plant, plus the continuing pressure on advertising revenues in the newspaper and television industries. Accordingly, a goodwill impairment charge of $85.0 million (without any tax consequence) and an impairment charge on other assets of $81.9 million, mainly related to Mirabel printing plant assets, were recorded for the Newspapers CGU. An impairment charge of $60.1 million on the TVA Network's broadcasting licence (including $30.1 million without any tax consequence) was recorded for the Broadcasting CGU.

An impairment charge on intangible assets of $3.7 million was also recorded in 2015 in other segments.

2014

In 2014, the Corporation performed impairment tests on its CGUs and concluded that the recoverable amounts of its Newspapers and Broadcasting CGUs were less than their carrying values. The recoverable amounts of these CGUs were negatively impacted by the digital transformation and weak market conditions in the newspaper and broadcasting industries. The Corporation recorded a goodwill impairment charge of $190.0 million for the Newspapers CGU (without any tax consequence), of which $160.0 million is presented as part of discontinued operations. An impairment charge of $41.7 million on the TVA Network's broadcasting licence (including $20.9 million without any tax consequence) and a goodwill impairment charge of $9.3 million (including $3.9 million without any tax consequence) were recorded for the Broadcasting CGU.

8. LOSS ON DEBT REFINANCING

2015

- On April 10, 2015, Videotron redeemed all of its issued and outstanding 6.375% Senior Notes due December 15, 2015, in aggregate principal amount of US$175.0 million, and the related hedging contracts were unwound for a total cash consideration of $204.5 million.
- On July 16, 2015, Videotron redeemed all of its issued and outstanding 9.125% Senior Notes due April 15, 2018, in aggregate principal amount of US$75.0 million, and the related hedging contracts were unwound for a total cash consideration of $75.9 million.
- On July 16, 2015, Videotron redeemed all of its issued and outstanding 7.125% Senior Notes due January 15, 2020, in aggregate principal amount of $300.0 million, for a total cash consideration of $310.7 million.

These transactions resulted in a total loss of $12.1 million in 2015, net of a gain of $3.9 million previously reported in other comprehensive income.

2014

- In April 2014, Quebecor Media redeemed all of its issued and outstanding 7.75% Senior Notes due March 2016, in aggregate principal amount of US$380.0 million and settled its related hedging contracts for a total cash consideration of $367.8 million.
- In April 2014, Videotron redeemed US$260.0 million in aggregate principal amount of its issued and outstanding 9.125% Senior Notes due April 2018 for a total cash consideration of $295.4 million.

These transactions resulted in a total loss of $18.7 million in 2014, net of a gain of $10.8 million previously reported in other comprehensive income.

9. INCOME TAXES

The following table reconciles income taxes at the Corporation's domestic statutory tax rate of 26.9% in 2015 and 2014 and income taxes in the consolidated statements of income:

	2015	2014
Income taxes at domestic statutory tax rate	**$ 78.8**	$ 41.5
(Reduction) increase resulting from:		
Effect of provincial tax rate differences	**–**	(0.8)
Effect of non-deductible charges, non-taxable income and differences between current and future tax rates	**10.1**	42.4
Change in benefit arising from the recognition of current and prior year tax losses	**(1.3)**	2.2
Non-deductible impairment of goodwill	**22.9**	9.0
Other[1]	**(17.4)**	2.9
Income taxes	**$ 93.1**	$ 97.2

[1] Includes in 2015 a decrease of $16.1 million in income tax liability resulting from recent developments in tax audit matters, jurisprudence and tax legislation.

The significant items comprising the Corporation's net deferred income tax liability and their impact on the deferred income tax expense are as follows:

	Consolidated balance sheets		Consolidated income statements	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Loss carryforwards	**$ 105.6**	$ 102.7	**$ (2.9)**	$ 1.0
Accounts payable, accrued charges, provisions and deferred revenue	**14.6**	7.3	**(7.7)**	4.1
Defined benefit plans	**42.8**	36.6	**1.5**	4.9
Property, plant and equipment	**(397.6)**	(444.8)	**(27.0)**	4.6
Goodwill, intangible assets and other assets	**(93.0)**	(75.6)	**29.4**	(13.2)
Long-term debt, derivative financial instruments and exchangeable debentures	**(178.3)**	(122.0)	**14.3**	5.6
Benefits from a general partnership	**(67.6)**	(56.5)	**11.1**	(30.9)
Other	**(10.7)**	(2.8)	**8.7**	–
	$ (584.2)	$ (555.1)	**$ 27.4**	$ (23.9)

9. INCOME TAXES (continued)

Changes in the net deferred income tax liability are as follows:

	Note	2015	2014
Balance at beginning of year		**$ (555.1)**	$ (570.5)
Recognized in income as continuing operations		**(29.7)**	24.7
Recognized in income as discontinued operations	10	**2.3**	0.1
Recognized in other comprehensive income as continuing operations		**(34.3)**	(8.6)
Recognized in other comprehensive income as discontinued operations	10	**–**	2.0
Business acquisitions and disposals	10, 12	**31.8**	(2.4)
Other		**0.8**	(0.4)
Balance at end of year		**$ (584.2)**	$ (555.1)
Deferred income tax asset		**$ 29.5**	$ 7.8
Deferred income tax liability		**(613.7)**	(528.8)
Deferred income tax liability included in liabilities held for sale		**–**	(34.1)
		$ (584.2)	$ (555.1)

As of December 31, 2015, the Corporation had loss carryforwards for income tax purposes of $60.2 million available to reduce future taxable income, including $47.7 million that will expire between 2031 and 2035, and $12.5 million that can be carried forward indefinitely. Of these losses, an amount of $12.5 million has not been recognized. The Corporation also had capital losses of $1,102.7 million that can be carried forward indefinitely and applied only against future capital gains, of which $259.9 million were not recognized.

There are no income tax consequences attached to the payment of dividends in 2015 or 2014 by the Corporation to its shareholders.

10. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

2015

- In February 2015, the Corporation closed its specialty channel, SUN News.
- On April 13, 2015, the Corporation completed the sale, initially announced on October 6, 2014, of all of its English-language newspaper operations in Canada, consisting of more than 170 newspapers and publications, the Canoe English-language portal and 8 printing plants, including the Islington, Ontario plant, for a cash consideration consisting of $305.5 million, less cash disposed of $1.9 million. An amount of $1.3 million was also paid as an adjustment related to working capital items.
- On September 27, 2015, the Corporation completed the sale of Archambault Group Inc.’s retail operations, consisting of the 14 Archambault stores, the *archambault.ca* website, and the English-language Paragraphe Bookstore, for a cash consideration consisting of $14.5 million, less cash disposed of $1.1 million, and a balance receivable of $3.0 million.

10. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS (continued)

2014

- In January 2014, the Corporation ceased its door-to-door distribution of flyers and weekly newspapers in the Province of Québec.
- On June 1, 2014, the Corporation sold its 74 Québec weeklies for a cash consideration of $75.0 million and a net amount of $4.0 million relating to adjustments of working capital items. The Corporation received $78.4 million in 2014 and a final balance of $0.6 million in 2015.
- On September 2, 2014, the Corporation sold its Nurun Inc. subsidiary for a cash consideration consisting of $125.0 million, less cash disposed of $18.1 million. An amount of $8.2 million was also received relating to certain transaction adjustments.

The results of operations and cash flows related to those businesses were reclassified as discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income and cash flows as follows:

Consolidated statements of income and comprehensive income

	2015	2014
Revenues	**$ 194.1**	$ 723.2
Employee costs	**54.3**	264.2
Purchase of goods and services	**133.2**	375.3
Depreciation and amortization	**2.0**	31.0
Financial expenses	**0.2**	1.2
Restructuring of operations and other items	**23.9**	13.3
Impairment of goodwill and other assets	**–**	160.0
Loss before income taxes	**(19.5)**	(121.8)
Current income taxes	**(1.1)**	9.4
Deferred income taxes	**(2.3)**	(0.1)
(Loss) gain on disposal of businesses	**(3.6)**	49.5
Loss from discontinued operations	**(19.7)**	(81.6)
Other comprehensive loss:		
Loss on translation of net investments in foreign operations	**–**	(1.7)
Defined benefit plans:		
Re-measurement loss	**–**	(7.9)
Deferred income taxes	**–**	2.0
	–	(7.6)
Comprehensive loss from discontinued operations	**$ (19.7)**	$ (89.2)

10. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS (continued)

Consolidated statements of cash flows

	2015	2014
Cash flows related to operating activities	**$ (21.3)**	$ 71.2
Cash flows related to investing activities	**(1.2)**	0.7
Cash flows (used in) provided by discontinued operations	**$ (22.5)**	$ 71.9

Components of assets and liabilities classified as held for sale in the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2014 are as follows:

Current assets	$ 70.6
Property, plant and equipment	171.4
Intangible assets	26.1
Goodwill	130.0
Assets held for sale	398.1
Current liabilities	(61.0)
Long-term liabilities	(36.9)
Liabilities held for sale	(97.9)
Net assets held for sale	$ 300.2

11. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Basic earnings per share are calculated by dividing net income (loss) attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the year. Diluted earnings per share are calculated by taking into account the potentially dilutive effect of stock options of the Corporation on the number of shares outstanding, the potentially dilutive effect of stock options of the Corporation's subsidiaries on net income (loss) attributable to shareholders, and the potentially dilutive effect of conversion of convertible debentures issued by the Corporation on net income (loss) attributable to shareholders and on the number of shares outstanding.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to shareholders:

		2015		2014
Income from continuing operations attributable to shareholders	**$**	**165.6**	$	29.0
Impact of assumed conversion of stock options of subsidiaries and of convertible debentures of the Corporation		**4.2**		(0.3)
Income from continuing operations attributable to shareholders, adjusted for dilution effect	**$**	**169.8**	$	28.7
Net income (loss) attributable to shareholders	**$**	**151.8**	$	(30.1)
Impact of assumed conversion of stock options of subsidiaries and of convertible debentures of the Corporation		**4.2**		(0.3)
Net income (loss) attributable to shareholders, adjusted for dilution effect	**$**	**156.0**	$	(30.4)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding (in millions)		**122.7**		123.0
Potentially dilutive effect of stock options and of convertible debentures of the Corporation		**21.0**		–
Weighted average number of diluted shares outstanding (in millions)		**143.7**		123.0

For the year ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the diluted earnings per share calculation does not take into consideration the potential dilutive effect of certain stock options of the Corporation and of the Corporation's subsidiaries since their impact is anti-dilutive. During the year ended December 31, 2015, no option of the Corporation's plan (90,000 in 2014), 364,500 options of the Quebecor Media's plan (none in 2014), and 463,371 options of TVA Group's plan (525,368 in 2014) were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation since their impact is anti-dilutive.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, the diluted earnings per share calculation does not take into consideration the potential dilutive effect of convertible debentures of the Corporation since their impact is anti-dilutive.

12. NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS

(a) Non-controlling interests acquisitions

2015

- On March 20, 2015, TVA Group completed a rights offering, whereby TVA Group received aggregate gross proceeds of $110.0 million from the issuance of 19,434,629 Class B Shares, non-voting, participating, without par value of TVA Group ("Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group"). Under the rights offering, Quebecor Media has subscribed to 17,300,259 Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group at a total cost of $97.9 million; accordingly, its aggregate equity interest in TVA Group increased from 51.5% to 68.4%. The increase of Quebecor Media's interest in TVA Group was accounted for as an equity transaction and resulted in an increase of retained earnings of $14.1 million and in an equivalent decrease of non-controlling interests.
- On September 9, 2015, Quebecor Media repurchased 7,268,324 of its Common Shares held by CDP Capital d'Amérique Investissement inc., a subsidiary of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, for an aggregate purchase price of $500.0 million paid in cash. This transaction resulted in an increase of the Corporation interest in Quebecor Media from 75.4% to 81.1% and was accounted for as an equity transaction. Accordingly, the excess of $301.4 million of the purchase price over the carrying value of non-controlling interests of $198.6 million acquired was recorded as a $294.1 million reduction of retained earnings and as a $7.3 million increase of accumulated other comprehensive loss.
- Other non-controlling interests acquisitions were made in 2015 resulting in a decrease of retained earnings of $1.7 million and in an equivalent increase of non-controlling interests.

(b) Business acquisitions

2015

- On March 11, 2015, the Telecommunications segment acquired 4Degrees Colocation Inc. ("4Degrees Colocation") and its data center, the largest in Québec City, for a purchase price of $35.5 million in cash. An amount of $0.2 million was received in June 2015 as an adjustment related to working capital items. The acquisition enables Videotron to meet its business customers' growing technological and hosting needs. Goodwill arising from this acquisition mainly reflects 4Degrees Colocation's expertise and future growth potential.
- On April 12, 2015, TVA Group acquired 14 magazines, including some magazines that will be owned and operated in partnership, for a purchase price of $55.5 million in cash and a post-closing adjustment of $0.8 million, paid in the fourth quarter of 2015. The transaction is in line with the strategy of investing in the production and distribution of high-quality, rich, diverse entertainment and news media content. Goodwill arising from this acquisition mainly reflects content quality and anticipated synergies.
- In 2015, the Corporation also acquired other businesses, such as Marathon de Québec, included in the Sports and Entertainment segment.

12. NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS (continued)

(b) Business acquisitions (continued)

2014

- In December 2014, the Media segment acquired, through TVA Group, substantially all of the assets (including assuming certain operational liabilities) of Global Vision A.R. Ltd. – now operated by Mels Studios and Postproduction G.P. ("MELS") – for a purchase price of $116.1 million in cash and a post-closing adjustment of $1.2 million paid in 2015. MELS operates in the film and television industry by offering studio, soundstage and equipment leasing and post-production services. The assets acquired include Mel's La Cité du Cinéma in Montréal and Studio Melrose in Saint-Hubert, which facilities are used for both local and foreign film and television production, including American blockbusters. The purpose of this acquisition was to invest in sectors that are a good fit with the Media segment's activities, with the effect of diversifying segment revenues. Goodwill arising from this acquisition reflects the reputation of the workforce, future growth potential and expected synergies.
- In 2014, the Corporation also acquired other businesses, such as the Remparts de Québec, a hockey team in the QMJHL, included in the Sports and Entertainment segment.

The purchase price allocation between the fair value of identifiable assets and liabilities related to business acquisitions in 2015 and 2014 is summarized as follows:

	2015	2014
Assets acquired		
Non-cash current assets	**$ 20.1**	$ 9.6
Property, plant and equipment	**13.9**	96.4
Intangible assets	**32.0**	17.1
Goodwill	**48.8**	18.0
Other assets	**2.1**	–
	116.9	141.1
Liabilities assumed		
Non-cash current liabilities	**(21.2)**	(7.0)
Deferred income taxes	**(0.2)**	–
Other long-term liabilities	**–**	(1.3)
	(21.4)	(8.3)
Net assets acquired at fair value	**95.5**	132.8
Non-controlling interests	**(0.8)**	–
	$ 94.7	$ 132.8
Consideration		
Cash	**$ 94.5**	$ 132.3
Balance payable	**0.2**	0.5
	$ 94.7	$ 132.8

12. NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS (continued)

(b) Business acquisitions (continued)

The pro forma revenues and net income in 2015 would not have been significantly different than the actual figures if all business acquisitions had occurred at the beginning of the year.

The amount of goodwill that is deductible for tax purposes is $7.6 million in 2015 ($18.0 million in 2014).

13. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	Note	**2015**	2014
Trade	29(c)	**$ 433.0**	$ 397.8
Other		**61.1**	51.6
		$ 494.1	$ 449.4

14. INVENTORIES

	2015	2014
Raw materials and supplies	**$ 22.6**	$ 21.0
Finished goods	**112.9**	115.7
Programs, broadcast and distribution rights	**77.9**	73.3
Work in progress	**2.1**	2.2
	$ 215.5	$ 212.2

Cost of inventories included in purchase of goods and services amounted to $680.0 million in 2015 ($611.8 million in 2014). Write-downs of inventories totalling $5.8 million were recognized in purchase of goods and services in 2015 ($4.3 million in 2014).

15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, changes in the net carrying amount of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

	Land, buildings and leasehold improvements	Machinery and equipment	Telecommuni-cation networks	Projects under development	Total
Cost					
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 571.7	$ 1,427.4	$ 4,554.9	$ 46.0	$ 6,600.0
Additions	34.9	170.1	289.1	149.9	644.0
Net change in additions financed with accounts payable	–	1.7	(1.2)	(0.3)	0.2
Business acquisitions (note 12)	61.3	35.1	–	–	96.4
Reclassification	0.5	34.3	119.1	(153.9)	–
Reclassification to assets held for sale	(118.0)	(191.8)	–	(1.9)	(311.7)
Retirement, disposals and other[1]	(18.5)	(79.2)	(80.8)	(2.1)	(180.6)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	531.9	1,397.6	4,881.1	37.7	6,848.3
Additions	36.8	180.9	295.0	165.9	678.6
Net change in additions financed with accounts payable	–	2.1	(0.4)	(21.8)	(20.1)
Business acquisitions (note 12)	12.6	1.3	–	–	13.9
Reclassification	–	5.0	98.0	(103.0)	–
Retirement, disposals and other[1]	(14.5)	(65.1)	(79.9)	(4.2)	(163.7)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ 566.8**	**$ 1,521.8**	**$ 5,193.8**	**$ 74.6**	**$ 7,357.0**

15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

	Land, buildings and leasehold improvements	Machinery and equipment	Telecommuni-cation networks	Projects under development	Total
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses					
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 206.5	$ 687.5	$ 2,273.6	$ –	$ 3,167.6
Depreciation	18.6	184.0	333.2	–	535.8
Reclassification to assets held for sale	(32.9)	(107.4)	–	–	(140.3)
Retirement, disposals and other[1]	(9.6)	(55.7)	(79.9)	–	(145.2)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	182.6	708.4	2,526.9	–	3,417.9
Depreciation	17.2	220.1	357.9	–	595.2
Impairment (note 7)	19.3	57.2	–	–	76.5
Retirement, disposals and other[1]	(12.3)	(55.2)	(90.0)	–	(157.5)
As of December 31, 2015	**$ 206.8**	**$ 930.5**	**$ 2,794.8**	**$ –**	**$ 3,932.1**
Net carrying amount					
As of December 31, 2014	$ 349.3	$ 689.2	$ 2,354.2	$ 37.7	$ 3,430.4
As of December 31, 2015	**$ 360.0**	**$ 591.3**	**$ 2,399.0**	**$ 74.6**	**$ 3,424.9**

[1] Also includes the net change in assets related to discontinued operations.

16. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, changes in the net carrying amount of intangible assets are as follows:

	Spectrum licences [1, 2, 3]	Software	Customer relation-ships, naming rights and other	Broad-casting licences	Mastheads and sport franchises	Projects under develop-ment	Total
Cost							
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 570.5	$ 582.8	204.2	$ 103.0	$ 108.0	$ 15.8	$ 1,584.3
Additions	217.4	66.7	4.0	–	–	29.2	317.3
Net change in additions financed with accounts payable	–	(0.8)	–	–	–	(1.8)	(2.6)
Business acquisitions (note 12)	–	1.1	12.0	–	4.0	–	17.1
Reclassification	–	34.0	–	–	–	(34.0)	–
Reclassification to assets held for sale	–	(37.2)	(110.9)	–	(103.3)	(1.9)	(253.3)
Retirement, disposals and other [4]	–	(22.3)	(15.5)	–	–	0.1	(37.7)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	787.9	624.3	93.8	103.0	8.7	7.4	1,625.1
Additions	219.0	64.0	37.1	–	–	40.5	360.6
Net change in additions financed with accounts payable	–	15.2	–	–	–	(7.8)	7.4
Business acquisitions (note 12)	–	2.2	21.4	–	8.4	–	32.0
Reclassification	–	10.5	–	–	–	(10.5)	–
Retirement, disposals and other [4]	–	(3.6)	(2.1)	–	–	(0.1)	(5.8)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ 1,006.9**	**$ 712.6**	**$ 150.2**	**$ 103.0**	**$ 17.1**	**$ 29.5**	**$ 2,019.3**

16. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (continued)

	Spectrum licences	Software	Customer relation-ships, naming rights and other	Broad-casting licences	Mastheads and sport franchises	Projects under develop-ment	Total
Accumulated amortization and impairment losses							
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 178.1	$ 310.5	$ 177.4	$ 0.8	$ 92.7	$ –	$ 759.5
Amortization	55.7	64.0	5.6	–	–	–	125.3
Impairment (note 7)	–	–	–	41.7	–	–	41.7
Reclassification to assets held for sale	–	(28.0)	(106.5)	–	(92.7)	–	(227.2)
Retirement, disposals and other [4]	–	(14.7)	(5.3)	–	–	–	(20.0)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	233.8	331.8	71.2	42.5	–	–	679.3
Amortization	13.9	75.1	9.4	–	–	–	98.4
Impairment (note 7)	–	5.4	3.7	60.1	–	–	69.2
Retirement, disposals and other [4]	–	(4.1)	(1.5)	–	–	–	(5.6)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ 247.7**	**$ 408.2**	**$ 82.8**	**$ 102.6**	**$ –**	**$ –**	**$ 841.3**
Net carrying amount							
As of December 31, 2014	$ 554.1	$ 292.5	$ 22.6	$ 60.5	$ 8.7	$ 7.4	$ 945.8
As of December 31, 2015	**$ 759.2**	**$ 304.4**	**$ 67.4**	**$ 0.4**	**$ 17.1**	**$ 29.5**	**$ 1,178.0**

[1] Videotron holds an option to sell its unused AWS spectrum licence in the Toronto area to Rogers Communications Partnership for a price of $180.0 million. The spectrum licence was purchased at a cost of $96.4 million in 2008.

[2] In 2014, Videotron acquired seven 700 MHz spectrum licences, covering the entirety of the provinces of Québec, Ontario (except Northern Ontario), Alberta and British Columbia, for a total price of $233.3 million, for which Videotron made a cash deposit of $15.9 million in 2013 and paid the balance in 2014.

[3] In 2015, Videotron acquired four AWS-3 spectrum licences, covering the Province of Québec and the Ottawa region, and eighteen 2500 MHz spectrum licences, covering the Province of Québec, the Ottawa region, the cities of Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton, for a total price of $219.0 million.

[4] Also includes the net change in assets related to discontinued operations.

16. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (continued)

The cost of internally generated intangible assets, mainly composed of software, was $448.5 million as of December 31, 2015 ($415.8 million as of December 31, 2014). For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation recorded additions of internally generated intangible assets of $36.3 million ($62.0 million in 2014).

The accumulated amortization and impairment losses on internally generated intangible assets, mainly composed of software, was $245.8 million as of December 31, 2015 ($209.8 million as of December 31, 2014). For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation recorded $39.2 million in amortization on its internally generated intangible assets ($44.8 million in 2014). The net carrying value of internally generated intangible assets was $202.7 million as of December 31, 2015 ($206.0 million as of December 31, 2014).

Spectrum licences are allocated to the Telecommunications CGU, broadcasting licences are allocated to the Broadcasting CGU, mastheads are allocated to the Newspapers and Magazines CGUs, while sport franchises are allocated to the Sports and Entertainment CGU.

17. GOODWILL

For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, changes in the net carrying amount of goodwill are as follows:

	2015	2014
Cost		
Balance at beginning of year	**$ 5,584.3**	$ 6,862.9
Business acquisitions (note 12)	**48.8**	18.0
Business disposals	**(32.0)**	(93.9)
Reclassification to assets held for sale	**–**	(1,203.0)
Other	**–**	0.3
Balance at end of year	**5,601.1**	5,584.3
Accumulated amortization and impairment losses		
Balance at beginning of year	**2,869.7**	3,801.4
Impairment loss (note 7)	**85.0**	199.3
Business disposals	**(32.0)**	(58.0)
Reclassification to assets held for sale	**–**	(1,073.0)
Balance at end of year	**2,922.7**	2,869.7
Net carrying amount	**$ 2,678.4**	$ 2,714.6

17. GOODWILL (continued)

The net carrying amount of goodwill as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 was allocated to the following significant CGU groups:

	2015	2014
CGU groups		
Telecommunications	**$ 2,589.9**	$ 2,570.3
Newspapers	**–**	85.0
Magazines	**70.0**	35.8
Other[1]	**18.5**	23.5
Total	**$ 2,678.4**	$ 2,714.6

[1] Includes the CGUs related to Speciality film and television services, Book publishing and distribution, and Sports and Entertainment.

Recoverable amounts

CGU recoverable amounts were determined based on the higher of a value in use or a fair value less costs of disposal with respect to the impairment tests performed. The Corporation uses the discounted cash flow method to estimate the recoverable amount, consisting of future cash flows derived primarily from the most recent budget and three-year strategic plan approved by the Corporation's management and presented to the Board of Directors. These forecasts considered each CGU's past operating performance and market share as well as economic trends, along with specific and market industry trends and corporate strategies. In particular, specific assumptions are used for each type of revenue generated by a CGU or for each nature of expenses, as well as for future capital expenditures. Such assumptions will consider, among many other factors, subscribers, readership and viewer statistics, advertising market trends, competitive landscape, evolution of products and services offerings, wireless penetration growth, proliferation of media platforms, technology evolution, broadcast programming strategy, bargaining agreements, Canadian GDP rates, and operating cost structures.

A perpetual growth rate is used for cash flows beyond the three-year strategic plan period. The discount rate used by the Corporation is a pre-tax rate derived from the weighted average cost of capital pertaining to each CGU, which reflects the current market assessment of (i) the time value of money, and (ii) the risk specific to the assets for which the future cash flow estimates have not been risk-adjusted. The perpetual growth rate was determined with regard to the specific markets in which the CGUs participate. In certain circumstances, the Corporation can also estimate the fair value less cost of disposal with a market approach that consists of estimating the recoverable amount by using multiples of operating performance of comparable entities, transaction metrics and other financial information available, instead of primarily using the discounted cash flow method.

17. GOODWILL (continued)

Recoverable amounts (continued)

The following key assumptions were used to determine recoverable amounts in the most recent impairment tests performed on the Corporation's significant CGU groups:

	2015		2014	
CGU groups	**Pre-tax discount rate (WACC)**	**Perpetual growth rate**	Pre-tax discount rate (WACC)	Perpetual growth rate
Telecommunications[1]	**9.0 %**	**2.5 %**	9.0 %	2.5 %
Newspapers[2]	**–**	**–**	11.5	0.0
Magazines[3]	**16.0**	**0.0**	16.0	1.0
Other[3]	**11.0 to 16.0**	**0.0 to 2.0**	11.0 to 16.0	1.0

1 As allowed by IAS 36, *Impairment of assets*, the recoverable amount calculated in the 2014 annual impairment test was used in the test performed in 2015 for this CGU. Accordingly, pre-tax discount rates and perpetual growth rates are the same in 2015 and 2014. The recoverable amount of this CGU was based on value in use, using the discounted cash flow method.

2 In 2015, the recoverable amount of the Newspapers CGU was based a fair value less costs of disposal. More specifically, the fair value of the CGU was based on the individual assets which were estimated using external valuation reports, comparable transaction metrics, and other financial information available. These fair values are classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy described in note 29(b). In 2014, the recoverable amounts of the Newspapers CGU was based on a fair value less costs of disposal, using a discounted cash flow method, except for the English newspapers' activities, for which the fair value was based on the metrics of the sale transaction announced in 2014 (note 10).

3 In 2015 and 2014, the recoverable amounts of these CGUs were based on value in use, using the discounted cash flow method.

Sensitivity of recoverable amounts

The following table presents, for the Corporation's significant CGU groups, the change in the discount rate or in the perpetual growth rate used in the tests performed that would have been required for the recoverable amount to equal the carrying value of the CGU as of the most recent impairment tests in 2015:

CGU groups[1]	**Incremental increase in pre-tax discount rate (WACC)**	**Incremental decrease in perpetual growth rate**
Telecommunications[2]	5.0 %	5.0 %
Magazines	2.0	1.5

1 No sensitivity tests were performed for CGUs on which impairment charges were recorded in the latest impairment tests.

2 Since the recoverable amount calculated in the 2014 annual impairment test was used in the test performed in 2015 for this CGU, sensitivity tests are the same as those disclosed in 2014.

18. OTHER ASSETS

	Note	**2015**	2014
Programs, broadcast and distribution rights		**$ 36.3**	$ 32.0
Deferred connection costs		**18.2**	24.3
Defined benefit plans	31	**–**	3.3
Other		**35.4**	19.7
		$ 89.9	$ 79.3

19. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED CHARGES

	2015	2014
Trade and accruals	**$ 470.9**	$ 467.9
Salaries and employee benefits	**126.8**	125.3
Interest payable	**46.4**	41.9
Stock-based compensation	**10.8**	15.1
	$ 654.9	$ 650.2

20. PROVISIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

	Restructuring of operations	**Contingencies, legal disputes and other**	**Total**
Balance as of December 31, 2014	$ 5.3	$ 56.1	$ 61.4
Recognized in income as continuing operations	19.2	17.0	36.2
Recognized in income as discontinued operations	9.2	–	9.2
Payments	(29.4)	(5.1)	(34.5)
Other	–	10.1	10.1
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ 4.3**	**$ 78.1**	**$ 82.4**
Current portion	**$ 4.3**	**$ 62.8**	**$ 67.1**
Non-current portion	**–**	**15.3**	**15.3**

The recognition of provisions, in terms of both timing and amounts, requires the exercise of judgment based on relevant circumstances and events that can be subject to change over time. Provisions are primarily comprised of the following:

Restructuring of operations

Provisions for restructuring activities primarily cover severance payments related to initiatives to eliminate positions in the Media segment.

20. PROVISIONS AND CONTINGENCIES (continued)

Contingencies and legal disputes

There are a number of legal proceedings against the Corporation and its subsidiaries that are pending. In the opinion of the management of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, the outcome of those proceedings is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's results or on its financial position. Management of the Corporation, after taking legal advice, has established provisions for specific claims or actions considering the facts of each case. The Corporation cannot determine when and if any payment will be made related to those provisions.

Other

Other provisions are principally related to decommissioning obligations.

21. LONG-TERM DEBT

	Effective interest rate as of December 31, 2015	**2015**	2014
Quebecor			
Bank credit facility (i)	3.85 %	**$ 24.0**	$ 43.8
Other loan (ii)	3.54 %	**31.9**	32.9
		55.9	76.7
Quebecor Media (iii)			
Bank credit facilities (iv)	3.26 %	**474.0**	400.0
Other credit facility (v)		**–**	10.6
Senior Notes (vi)	(vi)	**2,001.8**	1,813.0
		2,475.8	2,223.6
Videotron (iii)			
Bank credit facilities (vii)	2.32 %	**273.5**	37.5
Senior Notes (vi) (note 8)	(vi)	**3,012.6**	2,913.5
		3,286.1	2,951.0
TVA Group (iii)			
Bank credit facilities (viii)	2.34 %	**73.8**	74.8
Other		**0.9**	0.6
Total long-term debt		**5,892.5**	5,326.7
Change in fair value related to hedged interest rate risk		**11.4**	8.2
Adjustments related to embedded derivatives		**0.6**	(5.2)
Financing fees, net of amortization		**(48.1)**	(51.4)
		(36.1)	(48.4)
		5,856.4	5,278.3
Less current portion		**(44.0)**	(230.1)
		$ 5,812.4	$ 5,048.2

21. LONG-TERM DEBT (continued)

(i) The bank credit facility of Quebecor is a revolving credit facility maturing in 2016 in an amount of $150.0 million. The availability under this facility is dependent on the market value of a portion of the Corporation's interest in Quebecor Media. The credit agreement governing this credit facility contains covenants such as limiting its ability to incur additional indebtedness. The borrowed amounts bear interest at floating rates based on Bankers' acceptance rate, U.S. London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), Canadian prime rate or U.S. prime rate, plus a premium determined by a leverage ratio. The credit facility is secured by a limited number of shares owned of Quebecor Media.

(ii) This mortgage loan bears interest at a fixed rate, payable every month, and matures in August 2017. The Corporation shall repay the principal amount in monthly repayments and the balance at the end of the term. The loan is secured by a first ranking hypothec on the head office building.

(iii) The debts of these subsidiaries are non-recourse to Quebecor.

(iv) The bank credit facilities of Quebecor Media are comprised of a US$350.0 million secured term loan "B" facility bearing interest at LIBOR, subject to a LIBOR floor of 0.75%, plus a premium of 2.50% and a $300.0 million secured revolving credit facility, bearing interest at Bankers' acceptance rate, LIBOR, Canadian prime rate or U.S. prime rate, plus a premium determined by a leverage ratio, and maturing in January 2017. The term loan "B" facility provides for quarterly amortization payments totaling 1.00% per annum of the original principal amount, with the balance payable on August 17, 2020. These credit facilities contain covenants such as maintaining certain financial ratios, limitations on Quebecor Media's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends and make other distributions. They are secured by liens on all of the movable property and assets of Quebecor Media (primarily shares of its subsidiaries), now owned or hereafter acquired. As of December 31, 2015, the credit facilities of Quebecor Media were secured by assets with a carrying value of $3,326.5 million ($3,177.3 million in 2014). As of December 31, 2015, $2.0 million had been drawn on the revolving credit facility (no amount was drawn in 2014), and the balance of the term loan "B" is $472.0 million ($400.0 million in 2014).

(v) The other credit facility matured in July 2015 and was not renewed.

21. LONG-TERM DEBT (continued)

(vi) The Senior Notes are unsecured and contain certain restrictions on the respective issuers, including limitations on their ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends or make other distributions. Some Notes are redeemable at the option of the issuer, in whole or in part, at a price based on a make-whole formula during the first five years of the term of the Notes and at a decreasing premium thereafter, while the remaining Notes are redeemable at a price based on a make-whole formula at any time prior to maturity. The Notes issued by Videotron are guaranteed by specific subsidiaries of Videotron. The following table summarizes the terms of the outstanding Senior Notes as of December 31, 2015:

Principal amount	Annual nominal interest rate	Effective interest rate (after discount or premium at issuance)	Maturity date	Interest payable every 6 months on
Quebecor Media				
$ 325.0	7.375 %	7.375 %	January 15, 2021	June and December 15
US$ 850.0	5.750 %	5.750 %	January 15, 2023	June and December 15
$ 500.0	6.625 %	6.625 %	January 15, 2023	June and December 15
Videotron				
$ 300.0	6.875 %	6.875 %	July 15, 2021	June and December 15
US$ 800.0	5.000 %	5.000 %	July 15, 2022	January and July 15
US$ 600.0[1]	5.375 %	5.375 %	June 15, 2024	June and December 15
$ 400.0	5.625 %	5.625 %	June 15, 2025	April and October 15
$ 375.0[2]	5.750 %	5.750 %	January 15, 2026	March and September 15

1 The Notes were issued in April 2014 for net proceeds of $654.5 million, net of financing fees of $7.8 million.

2 The Notes were issued in September 2015 for net proceeds of $370.1 million, net of financing fees of $4.9 million.

(vii) The bank credit facilities provide for a $615.0 million secured revolving credit facility that matures in July 2020, a $350.0 million unsecured revolving credit facility that matures in July 2020 and a $75.0 million secured export financing facility providing for a term loan that matures in June 2018. The revolving credit facilities bear interest at Bankers' acceptance rate, Canadian prime rate or U.S. prime rate, plus a margin, depending on Videotron's leverage ratio. Advances under the export financing facility bear interest at Bankers' acceptance rate plus a margin. The secured bank credit facilities are secured by a first ranking hypothec on the universality of all tangible and intangible assets, current and future, of Videotron and most of its wholly owned subsidiaries. As of December 31, 2015, the secured bank credit facilities were secured by assets with a carrying value of $7,646.3 million ($6,238.3 million in 2014). The bank credit facilities contain covenants such as maintaining certain financial ratios, limitations on Videotron's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends, or make other distributions. As of December 31, 2015, $246.7 million had been drawn on the secured revolving credit facilities (no amount was drawn in 2014), $26.8 million was outstanding on the export financing facility ($37.5 million in 2014), and no amount was drawn on the unsecured revolving credit facility.

21. LONG-TERM DEBT (continued)

(viii) The bank credit facilities of TVA Group comprise a secured revolving credit facility in the amount of $150.0 million, maturing in February 2019, and a secured term loan in the amount of $75.0 million, maturing in November 2019. TVA Group's revolving credit facility bears interest at floating rates based on Bankers' acceptance rate, LIBOR, Canadian prime rate or U.S. prime rate plus a premium determined by a leverage ratio. The term loan bears interest at floating rates based on Bankers' acceptance rate or Canadian prime rate plus a premium determined by a leverage ratio. The term loan provides for quarterly amortization payments commencing on December 20, 2015. The bank credit facilities contain covenants such as maintaining certain financial ratios, limitations on TVA Group's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends, or make other distributions. They are secured by liens on all of its movable assets and an immovable hypothec on its Head Office building. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, no amount had been drawn on the revolving credit facility, and as of December 31, 2015, $73.8 million was outstanding on the term loan ($74.8 million in 2014).

On December 31, 2015, the Corporation and its subsidiaries were in compliance with all debt covenants.

Principal repayments of long-term debt over the coming years are as follows:

2016	$	44.0
2017		53.9
2018		19.2
2019		56.8
2020		704.2
2021 and thereafter		5,014.4

22. OTHER LIABILITIES

	Note		**2015**		2014
Defined benefit plans	31	**$**	**158.9**	$	136.8
Embedded derivatives related to convertible debentures	25		**221.7**		232.2
Deferred revenue			**18.9**		25.7
Stock-based compensation[1]	24		**18.9**		14.4
Other[2]			**29.8**		17.7
		$	**448.2**	$	426.8

[1] The current $10.8 million portion of stock-based compensation is included in accounts payable and accrued charges ($15.1 million in 2014) (note 19).

[2] Including exchangeable debentures, Series 2001 and Series Abitibi that mature in 2026, having a combined principal nominal amount outstanding of $844.9 million as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and a combined carrying value of $2.1 million as of December 31, 2015 and 2014. Exchangeable debentures bear interest at a rate of 0.10% on the debentures' principal amount. Prior to maturity, the Corporation may, at its option, satisfy its obligation without any consideration.

23. CAPITAL STOCK

(a) Authorized capital stock

An unlimited number of Class A Multiple Voting Shares ("Class A Shares") with voting rights of 10 votes per share convertible at any time into Class B Subordinate Voting Shares ("Class B Shares") on a one-for-one basis.

An unlimited number of Class B Shares convertible into Class A Shares on a one-for-one basis, only if a takeover bid for Class A Shares is made to holders of Class A Shares without being made concurrently and under the same terms to holders of Class B Shares, for the sole purpose of allowing the holders of Class B Shares to accept the offer and subject to certain other stated conditions provided in the articles including the acceptance of the offer by the majority holder.

Holders of Class B Shares are entitled to elect 25% of the Board of Directors of Quebecor. Holders of Class A Shares may elect the other members of the Board of Directors.

(b) Issued and outstanding capital stock

	Class A Shares		Class B Shares	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
Balance as of December 31, 2013	39,024,672	$ 8.7	84,306,792	$ 320.2
Class A Shares converted into Class B Shares	(51,500)	–	51,500	–
Shares purchased and cancelled	–	–	(455,000)	(1.7)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	38,973,172	8.7	83,903,292	318.5
Class A Shares converted into Class B Shares	(46,800)	–	46,800	–
Shares purchased and cancelled	–	–	(413,300)	(1.6)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**38,926,372**	**$ 8.7**	**83,536,792**	**$ 316.9**

On July 30, 2015, the Corporation filed a normal course issuer bid for a maximum of 500,000 Class A Shares representing approximately 1.3% of issued and outstanding Class A Shares, and for a maximum of 2,000,000 Class B Shares representing approximately 2.4% of issued and outstanding Class B Shares as of July 29, 2015. The purchases can be made from August 13, 2015 to August 12, 2016 at prevailing market prices on the open market through the facilities of the Toronto Stock Exchange. All shares purchased under the bid will be cancelled.

In 2015, the Corporation purchased and cancelled 413,300 Class B Shares for a total cash consideration of $12.4 million (455,000 Class B Shares for a total cash consideration of $11.7 million in 2014). The excess of $10.8 million of the purchase price over the carrying value of Class B Shares repurchased was recorded in reduction of retained earnings in 2015 ($10.0 million in 2014).

On March 8, 2016, the Board of Directors of the Corporation declared a dividend of $0.035 per share on Class A Shares and Class B Shares, or approximately $4.3 million, payable on April 19, 2016 to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 25, 2016.

24. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS

(a) Quebecor plans

(i) Stock option plan

Under a stock option plan established by the Corporation, 13,000,000 Class B Shares of the Corporation have been set aside for directors, officers, senior employees, and other key employees of the Corporation and its subsidiaries. The exercise price of each option is equal to the weighted average trading price of the Corporation's Class B Shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange over the last five trading days immediately preceding the granting of the option. Each option may be exercised during a period not exceeding 10 years from the date granted. Options usually vest as follows: 1/3 after one year, 2/3 after two years, and 100% three years after the original grant. Holders of options under the stock option plan have the choice, when they exercise their options, of acquiring the Class B Shares at the corresponding option exercise price, or receiving a cash payment equivalent to the difference between the market value of the underlying shares and the exercise price of the option. The Board of Directors of the Corporation may, at its discretion, affix different vesting periods at the time of each grant.

The following table gives details on changes to outstanding options for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

		2015		2014
	Options	**Weighted average exercise price**	Options	Weighted average exercise price
Balance at beginning of year	**1,310,000**	**$ 25.36**	2,369,182	$ 21.13
Granted	**–**	**–**	1,010,000	26.30
Exercised	**–**	**–**	(527,208)	18.83
Cancelled	**–**	**–**	(1,541,974)	21.71
Balance at end of year	**1,310,000**	**$ 25.36**	1,310,000	$ 25.36
Vested options at end of year	**100,000**	**$ 22.23**	–	$ –

During the year ended December 31, 2014, 527,208 stock options of the Corporation were exercised for a cash consideration of $4.2 million.

The following table gives summary information on outstanding options as of December 31, 2015:

	Outstanding options			**Vested options**	
Range of exercise price	**Number**	**Weighted average years to maturity**	**Weighted average exercise price**	**Number**	**Weighted average exercise price**
$22.23 to 30.24	**1,310,000**	**8.18**	**$ 25.36**	**100,000**	**$ 22.23**

24. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)

(a) Quebecor plans (continued)

(ii) Mid-term stock-based compensation plan

Under the mid-term stock-based compensation plan, participants are entitled to receive a cash payment at the end of a three-year period based on the appreciation of the Corporation Class B Share price, and subject to the achievement of certain non-market performance criteria. The following table provides details of changes to outstanding units in the mid-term stock-based compensation plan for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015		2014	
	Units	**Weighted average exercise price**	Units	Weighted average exercise price
Balance at beginning of year	**803,517**	**$ 26.22**	2,263,516	$ 19.92
Granted	**672,829**	**31.62**	1,388,447	26.47
Exercised	**–**	**–**	(480,148)	18.76
Cancelled	**–**	**–**	(2,368,298)	21.86
Balance at end of year	**1,476,346**	**$ 28.68**	803,517	$ 26.22

During the year ended December 31, 2014, a cash consideration of $3.7 million was paid upon the exercise of 480,148 units.

(iii) Deferred stock unit plan

The Quebecor deferred stock unit ("DSU") plan is for the benefit of the Corporation's directors. Under this plan, each director receives a portion of his/her compensation in the form of DSUs, such portion representing at least 50% of the annual retainer which could be less upon reaching the minimum shareholding threshold set out in the policy regarding the minimum shareholding by directors. Subject to certain conditions, each director may elect to receive up to 100% of the total fees payable for services as a director in the form of units. The value of a DSU is based on the weighted average trading price of the Corporation's Class B Shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange over the last five trading days immediately preceding the relevant date. DSUs will entitle the holders thereof to dividends, which will be paid in the form of additional units at the same rate as that applicable to dividends paid from time to time on the Corporation's Class B Shares. Subject to certain limitations, the DSUs will be redeemed by the Corporation when the director ceases to serve as a director of the Corporation. For the purpose of redeeming units, the value of a DSU shall correspond to the fair market value of the Corporation's Class B Shares on the date of redemption. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the total number of DSUs outstanding under this plan was 170,982 and 160,338, respectively.

(b) Quebecor Media stock option plan

Under a stock option plan established by Quebecor Media, 6,180,140 Common Shares of Quebecor Media have been set aside for officers, senior employees, directors, and other key employees of Quebecor Media and its subsidiaries. Each option may be exercised within a maximum period of 10 years following the date of grant at an exercise price not lower than, as the case may be, the fair market value of the Common Shares of Quebecor Media at the date of grant, as determined by its Board of Directors (if the Common Shares of Quebecor Media are not listed on a stock exchange at the time of the grant), or the five-day weighted average market price ending on the day preceding the date of grant of the Common Shares of Quebecor Media on the stock exchange(s) where such shares are listed at the time of grant. As long as the Common Shares of Quebecor Media are not listed on a recognized stock exchange, optionees may exercise their vested options during one of the following periods: from March 1 to March 30, from June 1 to June 29, from September 1 to September 29, and from December 1 to December 30.

24. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)

(b) Quebecor Media stock option plan (continued)

Holders of options under the plan have the choice at the time of exercising their options of receiving an amount in cash (equal to the difference between either the five-day weighted average market price ending on the day preceding the date of exercise of the Common Shares of Quebecor Media on the stock exchange(s) where such shares are listed at the time of exercise, or the fair market value of the Common Shares, as determined by the Quebecor Media's Board of Directors, and the exercise price of their vested options) or, subject to certain stated conditions, exercise their options to purchase Common Shares of Quebecor Media at the exercise price. Except under specific circumstances, and unless the Human Resources and Compensation Committee decides otherwise, options vest over a five-year period in accordance with one of the following vesting schedules as determined by the Human Resources and Compensation Committee at the time of grant: (i) equally over five years with the first 20% vesting on the first anniversary of the date of the grant; (ii) equally over four years with the first 25% vesting on the second anniversary of the date of grant; and (iii) equally over three years with the first 33 1/3% vesting on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

The following table gives details on changes to outstanding options granted as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

		2015		2014
	Options	**Weighted average exercise price**	Options	Weighted average exercise price
Balance at beginning of year	**1,631,959**	**$ 55.15**	1,647,309	$ 52.67
Granted	**369,500**	**70.56**	271,000	63.96
Exercised	**(480,165)**	**50.35**	(218,750)	46.28
Cancelled	**(38,800)**	**59.01**	(67,600)	58.85
Balance at end of year	**1,482,494**	**$ 60.44**	1,631,959	$ 55.15
Vested options at end of year	**244,261**	**$ 51.44**	263,823	$ 46.74

During the year ended December 31, 2015, 480,165 of the Quebecor Media's stock options were exercised for a cash consideration of $9.5 million (218,750 stock options for $3.6 million in 2014).

The following table gives summary information on outstanding options as of December 31, 2015:

			Outstanding options		**Vested options**
Range of exercise price	**Number**	**Weighted average years to maturity**	**Weighted average exercise price**	**Number**	**Weighted average exercise price**
$37.91 to 53.40	181,083	4.58	$ 47.12	129,283	$ 45.35
$57.35 to 70.56	1,301,411	8.17	62.30	114,978	58.28
$37.91 to 70.56	**1,482,494**	**7.73**	**$ 60.44**	**244,261**	**$ 51.44**

24. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)

(c) TVA Group stock option plan

Under this stock option plan, 2,200,000 Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group have been set aside for senior executives and directors of TVA Group and its subsidiaries. The terms and conditions of options granted are determined by TVA Group's Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee. The subscription price of an option cannot be less than the closing price of Class B Shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange the day before the option is granted. Options granted prior to January 2006 usually vest equally over a four-year period, with the first 25% vesting on the second anniversary date of the date of grant. Beginning January 2006, and unless the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee decides otherwise, options vest over a five-year period in accordance with one of the following vesting schedules as determined by the Human Resources and Corporate Governance Committee at the time of grant: (i) equally over five years with the first 20% vesting on the first anniversary of the date of the grant; (ii) equally over four years with the first 25% vesting on the second anniversary of the date of grant; and (iii) equally over three years with the first 33 1/3% vesting on the third anniversary of the date of grant. The term of an option cannot exceed 10 years. Holders of options under the plan have the choice, at the time of exercising their options, of receiving a cash payment from TVA Group equal to the number of shares corresponding to the options exercised, multiplied by the difference between the market value of the Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group and the exercise price of the option or, subject to certain conditions, exercise their options to purchase Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group at the exercise price. The market value is defined as the average closing market price of the Class B Non-Voting Shares of TVA Group for the last five trading days preceding the date on which the option was exercised.

The following table gives details on changes to outstanding options for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

		2015		2014
	Options	**Weighted average exercise price**	Options	Weighted average exercise price
Balance at beginning of year	**525,368**	**$ 15.25**	691,076	$ 16.54
Granted	**80,000**	**6.85**	30,000	8.90
Cancelled	**(82,366)**	**13.68**	(69,208)	15.32
Expired	**(59,631)**	**21.28**	(126,500)	20.75
Balance at end of year	**463,371**	**$ 13.30**	525,368	$ 15.25
Vested options at end of year	**369,371**	**$ 14.81**	495,368	$ 15.63

The following table gives summary information on outstanding options as of December 31, 2015:

		Outstanding options		**Vested options**	
Range of exercise price	**Number**	**Weighted average years to maturity**	**Weighted average exercise price**	**Number**	**Weighted average exercise price**
$6.85 to 8.90	100,000	8.94	$ 7.47	6,000	$ 8.90
$14.62 to 15.99	363,371	1.43	14.91	363,371	14.91
$6.85 to 15.99	**463,371**	**3.05**	**$ 13.30**	**369,371**	**$ 14.81**

24. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)

(d) Assumptions in estimating the fair value of stock-based awards

The fair value of stock-based awards under the stock option plans of Quebecor, Quebecor Media and TVA Group was estimated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The following weighted-average assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of all outstanding stock options under the stock option plans as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

December 31, 2015	**Quebecor**	**Quebecor Media**	**TVA Group**
Risk-free interest rate	**0.95 %**	**0.80 %**	**0.68 %**
Distribution yield	**0.42 %**	**1.50 %**	**– %**
Expected volatility	**20.88 %**	**19.30 %**	**67.83 %**
Expected remaining life	**5.0 years**	**3.64 years**	**1.83 years**

December 31, 2014	Quebecor	Quebecor Media	TVA Group
Risk-free interest rate	1.69 %	1.38 %	1.07 %
Distribution yield	0.31 %	1.37 %	– %
Expected volatility	26.89 %	18.99 %	32.61 %
Expected remaining life	6.0 years	3.58 years	1.21 years

Except for Quebecor Media, the expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of the underlying share price for a period equivalent to the expected remaining life of the options. Since the Common Shares of Quebecor Media are not publicly traded on a stock exchange, expected volatility is derived from the implied volatility of Quebecor's stock. The expected remaining life of options granted represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rate over the expected remaining life of the option is based on the Government of Canada yield curve in effect at the time of the valuation. Distribution yield is based on the current average yield.

(e) Liability of vested options

As of December 31, 2015, the liability for all vested options was $5.5 million as calculated using the intrinsic value ($6.3 million as of December 31, 2014).

(f) Consolidated compensation charge

For the year ended December 31, 2015, a consolidated charge related to all stock-based compensation plans was recorded in the amount of $9.2 million ($5.8 million in 2014), of which a net reversal of the charge of $0.3 million (a charge of $1.0 million in 2014) is presented as part of discontinued operations.

25. CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES

On October 11, 2012, the Corporation issued $500.0 million in aggregate principal amount of convertible debentures bearing interest at an annual rate of 4.125% and maturing in October 2018. Interest is payable semi-annually in cash, in Quebecor Class B Shares, or with the proceeds from the sale of Quebecor Class B Shares. At maturity, the convertible debentures will be payable in cash by the Corporation at the outstanding principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, subject to redemption, conversion, purchase or previous repayment. One day prior to maturity, the Corporation may redeem the outstanding convertible debentures by issuing that number of Quebecor Class B Shares obtained by dividing the outstanding principal amount by the then current market price of a Quebecor Class B Share, subject to a floor price of $19.25 per share (that is, a maximum number of 25,974,026 Quebecor Class B Shares corresponding to a ratio of $500.0 million to the floor price) and a ceiling price of $24.06 per share (that is, a minimum number of 20,779,220 Quebecor Class B Shares corresponding to a ratio of $500.0 million to the ceiling price). At any time prior to the day prior to maturity, the Corporation may redeem or convert, in whole or in part, the outstanding convertible debentures, subject to the terms of the trust indenture. The convertible debentures are convertible at all times prior to the maturity date into Quebecor Class B Shares by the holders, in accordance with the terms of the trust indenture. In all cases, the Corporation has the option to pay an amount in cash equal to the market value of shares that would otherwise have been issued, being the product of (i) the number of those Quebecor Class B Shares and (ii) the then current market price of a Quebecor Class B share.

The convertible debentures are presented separately as a financial liability and the cap and floor feature are presented as embedded derivatives in other liabilities (note 22). The fair value of these embedded derivatives as of December 31, 2015 was estimated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, considering a risk-free rate of 0.70% (1.41% in 2014), a dividend yield of 0.42% (0.31% in 2014), and an expected volatility of 19.60% (20.40% in 2014). A one dollar increase in the market price of a Quebecor Class B share as of December 31, 2015 would have decreased the gain on embedded derivatives related to convertible debentures by $19.2 million, while a one dollar decrease in the market price of a Quebecor Class B share would have increased the gain by $19.0 million.

26. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

	Translation of net investments in foreign operations	Cash flow hedges	Defined benefit plans	Total
Balance as of December 31, 2013	$ 1.2	$ (16.0)	$ (8.3)	$ (23.1)
Other comprehensive loss	(1.2)	(13.2)	(26.9)	(41.3)
Balance as of December 31, 2014	–	(29.2)	(35.2)	(64.4)
Other comprehensive loss	–	(23.3)	(16.2)	(39.5)
Non-controlling interests acquisition (note 12)	–	(5.1)	(2.2)	(7.3)
Balance as of December 31, 2015	**$ –**	**$ (57.6)**	**$ (53.6)**	**$ (111.2)**

No significant amount is expected to be reclassified in income over the next 12 months in connection with derivatives designated as cash flow hedges. The balance is expected to reverse over a 8 1/2-year period.

27. COMMITMENTS

The Corporation rents premises and equipment under operating leases and has entered into long-term commitments to purchase services, capital equipment, broadcasting rights, and to pay royalties. The operating leases have various terms, escalation clauses, purchase options and renewal rights. The minimum payments for the coming years are as follows:

	Leases	Other commitments
2016	$ 51.3	$ 253.6
2017 to 2020	117.8	493.6
2021 and thereafter	84.7	592.8

The Corporation and its subsidiaries' operating lease expenses amounted to $66.9 million in 2015 ($69.3 million in 2014), of which $6.0 million ($14.7 million in 2014) is presented as part of discontinued operations.

28. GUARANTEES

In the normal course of business, the Corporation enters into numerous agreements containing guarantees, including the following:

Operating leases

The Corporation has guaranteed a portion of the residual value of certain assets under operating leases for the benefit of the lessor. Should the Corporation terminate these leases prior to term (or at the end of the lease terms), and should the fair value of the assets be less than the guaranteed residual value, then the Corporation must, under certain conditions, compensate the lessor for a portion of the shortfall. In addition, the Corporation has provided guarantees to the lessor of certain premises leases with expiry dates through 2020. Should the lessee default under the agreement, the Corporation must, under certain conditions, compensate the lessor. As of December 31, 2015, the maximum exposure with respect to these guarantees was $28.4 million and no liability has been recorded in the consolidated balance sheet.

Business and asset disposals

In the sale of all or part of a business or an asset, in addition to possible indemnification relating to failure to perform covenants and breach of representations or warranties, the Corporation may agree to indemnify against claims related to the past conduct of the business. Typically, the term and amount of such indemnification will be limited by the agreement. The nature of these indemnification agreements prevents the Corporation from estimating the maximum potential liability it could be required to pay to guaranteed parties. The Corporation has not accrued any amount in respect of these items in the consolidated balance sheet.

Outsourcing companies and suppliers

In the normal course of its operations, the Corporation enters into contractual agreements with outsourcing companies and suppliers. In some cases, the Corporation agrees to provide indemnifications in the event of legal procedures initiated against them. In other cases, the Corporation provides indemnification to counterparties for damages resulting from the outsourcing companies and suppliers. The nature of the indemnification agreements prevents the Corporation from estimating the maximum potential liability it could be required to pay. No amount has been accrued in the consolidated balance sheet with respect to these indemnifications.

28. GUARANTEES (continued)

Other

One of the Corporation's subsidiaries, has, as a franchiser, provided guarantees should franchisees, in their retail activities, default certain purchase agreements. The nature of the indemnification agreements prevents the Corporation from estimating the maximum potential liability it could be required to pay. No amount has been accrued in the consolidated balance sheet with respect to these guarantees.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Corporation's financial risk-management policies have been established in order to identify and analyze the risks faced by the Corporation, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk-management policies are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and in the Corporation's activities.

The Corporation uses a number of financial instruments, mainly cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, long-term investments, bank indebtedness, trade payables, accrued liabilities, long-term debt, convertible debentures, and derivative financial instruments. As a result of their use of financial instruments, the Corporation and its subsidiaries are exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risks relating to foreign exchange fluctuations and interest rate fluctuations.

In order to manage its foreign exchange and interest rate risks, the Corporation and its subsidiaries use derivative financial instruments (i) to set in CAN dollars future payments on debts denominated in U.S. dollars (interest and principal) and certain purchases of inventories and other capital expenditures denominated in a foreign currency, (ii) to achieve a targeted balance of fixed- and floating-rate debts, and (iii) to lock in the value of certain derivative financial instruments through offsetting transactions. The Corporation and its subsidiaries do not intend to settle their derivative financial instruments prior to their maturity as none of these instruments is held or issued for speculative purposes.

(a) Description of derivative financial instruments

(i) Foreign exchange forward contracts

Maturity	CAN dollar average exchange rate per one U.S. dollar		Notional amount sold		Notional amount bought
Quebecor Media					
2016[1]	1.0154	US$	320.0	$	324.9
Videotron					
Less than 1 year	1.3105	$	168.7	US$	128.7
2017[2]	1.3849	US$	260.0	$	360.1

[1] See footnote 1 below "Cross-currency interest rate swaps" table.

[2] See footnote 2 below "Cross-currency interest rate swaps" table.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(a) Description of derivative financial instruments (continued)

(ii) Interest rate swaps

Maturity	Notional amount	Pay/ receive	Fixed rate	Floating rate
TVA Group				
2017	$ 38.5	Pay fixed/ Receive floating	2.03%	Bankers' acceptances 1 month

(iii) Cross-currency interest rate swaps

Hedged item	Hedging instrument			
	Period covered	Notional amount	Annual interest rate on notional amount in CAN dollars	CAN dollar exchange rate on interest and capital payments per one U.S. dollar
Quebecor Media				
5.750% Senior Notes due 2023[1]	2007 to 2016	US$ 320.0	7.69%	0.9977
5.750% Senior Notes due 2023	2016 to 2023	US$ 431.3	7.27%	0.9792
5.750% Senior Notes due 2023	2012 to 2023	US$ 418.7	6.85%	0.9759
Term loan "B"	2013 to 2020	US$ 342.1	Bankers' acceptance 3 months + 2.77%	1.0346

[1] Quebecor Media initially entered into these cross-currency interest rate swaps to hedge the foreign currency risk exposure under its 7.75% Senior Notes due 2016 redeemed in 2012. These swaps are now used to set in CAN dollars all coupon payments through 2016 on US$431.3 million of notional amount under its 5.75% Senior Notes due 2023 and issued in 2012. In conjunction with the repurposing of these swaps, Quebecor Media has entered into US$320.0 million offsetting foreign exchange forward contracts to lock-in the value of its hedging position related to the March 15, 2016 notional exchange.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(a) Description of derivative financial instruments (continued)

(iii) Cross-currency interest rate swaps (continued)

Hedged item	Hedging instrument			
	Period covered	Notional amount	Annual interest rate on notional amount in CAN dollars	CAN dollar exchange rate on interest and capital payments per one U.S. dollar
Videotron				
5.000% Senior Notes due 2022	2014 to 2022	US$ 543.1	6.01%	0.9983
5.000% Senior Notes due 2022	2012 to 2022	US$ 256.9	5.81%	1.0016
5.375% Senior Notes due 2024[2]	2008 to 2017	US$ 260.0	9.21%	1.2965
5.375% Senior Notes due 2024	2014 to 2024	US$ 158.6	Bankers' acceptance 3 months + 2.67%	1.1034
5.375% Senior Notes due 2024	2017 to 2024	US$ 441.4	5.62%	1.1039

[2] Videotron initially entered into these cross-currency interest rate swaps to hedge the foreign currency risk exposure under its 9.125% Senior Notes due 2018 redeemed in 2014. These swaps are now used to set in CAN dollars all coupon payments through 2017 on US$441.4 million of notional amount under its 5.375% Senior Notes due 2024 and issued in 2014. In conjunction with the repurposing of these swaps, Videotron has entered into US$260.0 million offsetting foreign exchange forward contracts to lock-in the value of its hedging position related to the December 15, 2017 notional exchange.

Certain cross-currency interest rate swaps entered into by the Corporation and its subsidiaries include an option that allows each party to unwind the transaction on a specific date at the then settlement amount.

(b) Fair value of financial instruments

In accordance with IFRS 13, *Fair value measurement*, the Corporation considers the following fair value hierarchy which reflects the significance of the inputs used in measuring its other financial instruments accounted for at fair value in the consolidated balance sheets:

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices); and
- Level 3: inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The fair value of long-term debt and convertible debentures is estimated based on quoted market prices when available or on valuation models using Level 1 and Level 2 inputs. When the Corporation uses valuation models, the fair value is estimated using discounted cash flows using year-end market yields or the market value of similar instruments with the same maturity.

The fair value of cash equivalents and bank indebtedness, classified as held for trading and accounted for at their fair value in the consolidated balance sheets, is determined using Level 2 inputs.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(b) Fair value of financial instruments (continued)

The fair value of derivative financial instruments recognized in the consolidated balance sheets is estimated as per the Corporation's valuation models. These models project future cash flows and discount the future amounts to a present value using the contractual terms of the derivative instrument and factors observable in external market data, such as period-end swap rates and foreign exchange rates (Level 2 inputs). An adjustment is also included to reflect non-performance risk impacted by the financial and economic environment prevailing at the date of the valuation in the recognized measure of the fair value of the derivative instruments by applying a credit default premium, estimated using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs in the market (Level 3 inputs), to the net exposure of the counterparty or the Corporation. Derivative financial instruments are classified as Level 2.

The fair value of early settlement options recognized as embedded derivatives and embedded derivative related to convertible debentures is determined by option pricing models using Level 2 market inputs, including volatility, discount factors, and the underlying instrument's adjusted implicit interest rate and credit premium.

The carrying value and fair value of long-term debt, convertible debentures and derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

	2015		2014	
Asset (liability)	**Carrying value**	**Fair value**	Carrying value	Fair value
Long-term debt[1, 2]	**$ (5,892.5)**	**$ (5,894.9)**	$ (5,326.7)	$ (5,444.7)
Convertible debentures[3]	**(706.4)**	**(706.4)**	(711.8)	(711.8)
Derivative financial instruments[4]				
Early settlement options	**1.0**	**1.0**	8.2	8.2
Foreign exchange forward contracts[5]	**9.3**	**9.3**	4.2	4.2
Interest rate swaps	**(0.8)**	**(0.8)**	(0.5)	(0.5)
Cross-currency interest rate swaps[5]	**945.2**	**945.2**	294.4	294.4

1 The carrying value of long-term debt excludes adjustments to record changes in the fair value of long-term debt related to hedged interest risk, embedded derivatives and financing fees.

2 The fair value of the long-term debt does not include the fair value of early settlement options, which is presented separately in the table.

3 The carrying value and fair value of convertible debentures consist of the initial capital investment and the value of the cap and floor conversion price features, recognized as embedded derivatives.

4 The fair value of derivative financial instruments designated as hedges is an asset position of $953.7 million as of December 31, 2015 ($298.6 million as of December 31, 2014).

5 The value of foreign exchange forward contracts entered into to lock-in the value of existing hedging positions is netted from the value of the offset financial instruments.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(c) Credit risk management

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Corporation if a customer or counterparty to a financial asset fails to meet its contractual obligations.

In the normal course of business, the Corporation continuously monitors the financial condition of its customers and reviews the credit history of each new customer. As of December 31, 2015, no customer balance represented a significant portion of the Corporation's consolidated trade receivables. The Corporation establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts based on the specific credit risk of its customers and historical trends. As of December 31, 2015, 10.4% of trade receivables were 90 days past their billing date (8.5% as of December 31, 2014) of which 40.4% had an allowance for doubtful accounts (52.3% as of December 31, 2014).

The following table shows changes to the allowance for doubtful accounts for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

		2015		2014
Balance at beginning of year	**$**	**21.8**	$	28.4
Charged to income		**32.1**		32.1
Utilization		**(30.9)**		(34.5)
Reclassification to assets held for sale		**–**		(4.2)
Balance at end of year	**$**	**23.0**	$	21.8

The Corporation believes that its product lines and the diversity of its customer base are instrumental in reducing its credit risk, as well as the impact of fluctuations in product-line demand. The Corporation does not believe that it is exposed to an unusual level of customer credit risk.

As a result of their use of derivative financial instruments, the Corporation and its subsidiaries are exposed to the risk of non-performance by a third party. When the Corporation and its subsidiaries enter into derivative contracts, the counterparties (either foreign or Canadian) must have credit ratings at least in accordance with the Corporation's risk-management policy and are subject to concentration limits. These credit ratings and concentration limits are monitored on an ongoing basis, but at least quarterly.

(d) Liquidity risk management

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation and its subsidiaries will not be able to meet their financial obligations as they fall due or the risk that those financial obligations will have to be met at excessive cost. The Corporation and its subsidiaries manage this exposure through staggered debt maturities. The weighted average term of the Corporation's consolidated debt was approximately 7.0 years as of December 31, 2015 (7.2 years as of December 31, 2014).

The Corporation's management believes that cash flows and available sources of financing should be sufficient to cover committed cash requirements for capital investments, working capital, interest payments, debt repayments, pension plan contributions, and dividends in the future. The Corporation has access to cash flows generated by its subsidiaries through dividends (or distributions) paid by Quebecor Media.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(d) Liquidity risk management (continued)

As of December 31, 2015, material contractual obligations related to financial instruments included capital repayment and interest on long-term debt and on convertible debentures, and obligations related to derivative instruments, less estimated future receipts on derivative instruments. These obligations and their maturities are as follows:

	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years or more
Bank indebtedness	**$ 34.3**	$ 34.3	$ –	$ –	$ –
Accounts payable and accrued charges	**654.9**	654.9	–	–	–
Long-term debt[1]	**5,892.5**	44.0	73.1	761.0	5,014.4
Convertible debentures[2]	**704.0**	–	704.0	–	–
Interest payments[3]	**2,076.9**	263.9	612.3	561.4	639.3
Derivative instruments[4]	**(950.9)**	(1.8)	(17.7)	(112.9)	(818.5)
Total	**$ 8,411.7**	**$ 995.3**	**$ 1,371.7**	**$ 1,209.5**	**$ 4,835.2**

[1] The carrying value of long-term debt excludes adjustments to record changes in the fair value of long-term debt related to hedged interest risk, embedded derivatives and financing fees.

[2] Based on the market value at December 31, 2015 of a number of shares obtained by dividing the outstanding principal amount by the market price of a Quebecor Class B share at that date, subject to a floor price of $19.25 per share and a ceiling price of $24.0625. The Corporation may also redeem convertible debentures by issuing the corresponding number of Class B Shares.

[3] Estimate of interest payable on long-term debt and convertible debentures, based on interest rates, hedging of interest rates and hedging of foreign exchange rates as of December 31, 2015.

[4] Estimated future receipts, net of future disbursements, on derivative financial instruments related to foreign exchange hedging.

(e) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices due to foreign exchange rates, interest rates and/or equity prices will affect the value of the Corporation's financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to mitigate and control exposures within acceptable parameters while optimizing the return on risk.

Foreign currency risk

Most of the Corporation's consolidated revenues and expenses, other than interest expense on U.S.-dollar-denominated debt, purchases of set-top boxes, handsets and cable modems and certain capital expenditures, are received or denominated in CAN dollars. A significant portion of the interest, principal and premium, if any, payable on its debt is payable in U.S. dollars. The Corporation and its subsidiaries have entered into transactions to hedge the foreign currency risk exposure on their U.S.-dollar-denominated debt obligations outstanding as of December 31, 2015, to hedge their exposure on certain purchases of set-top boxes, handsets, cable modems and capital expenditures, and to lock-in the value of certain derivative financial instruments through offsetting transactions. Accordingly, the Corporation's sensitivity to variations in foreign exchange rates is economically limited.

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(e) Market risk (continued)

Foreign currency risk (continued)

The estimated sensitivity on income and on other comprehensive income, before income tax, of a variance of $0.10 in the year-end exchange rate of a CAN dollar per one U.S. dollar used to calculate the fair value of financial instruments as of December 31, 2015 is as follows:

Increase (decrease)	Income	Other comprehensive income
Increase of $0.10	$ 2.2	$ 50.2
Decrease of $0.10	(2.2)	(50.2)

Interest rate risk

Some of the Corporation's and its subsidiaries' bank credit facilities bear interest at floating rates based on the following reference rates: (i) Bankers' acceptance rate, (ii) LIBOR, (iii) Canadian prime rate, and (iv) U.S. prime rate. The Senior Notes issued by the Corporation and its subsidiaries bear interest at fixed rates. The Corporation and its subsidiaries have entered into cross-currency interest rate swap agreements in order to manage cash flow risk exposure. As of December 31, 2015, after taking into account the hedging instruments, long-term debt was comprised of 82.5% fixed-rate debt (82.6% in 2014) and 17.5% floating-rate debt (17.4% in 2014).

The estimated sensitivity on interest payments of a 100 basis-point variance in the year-end Canadian Bankers' acceptance rate as of December 31, 2015 was $8.6 million.

The estimated sensitivity on income and on other comprehensive income, before income tax, of a 100 basis-point variance in the discount rate used to calculate the fair value of financial instruments as of December 31, 2015, as per the Corporation's valuation models, is as follows:

Increase (decrease)	Income	Other comprehensive income
Increase of 100 basis points	$ (3.2)	$ (50.5)
Decrease of 100 basis points	3.2	50.5

29. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

(f) Capital management

The Corporation's primary objective in managing capital is to maintain an optimal capital base in order to support the capital requirements of its various businesses, including growth opportunities.

In managing its capital structure, the Corporation takes into account the asset characteristics of its subsidiaries and planned requirements for funds, leveraging their individual borrowing capacities in the most efficient manner to achieve the lowest cost of financing. Management of the capital structure involves the issuance of new debt, the repayment of existing debt using cash flows generated by operations, and the level of distributions to shareholders. The Corporation has not significantly changed its strategy regarding the management of its capital structure since the last financial year.

The Corporation's capital structure is composed of equity, bank indebtedness, long-term debt, convertible debentures, embedded derivative related to convertible debentures, net assets and liabilities related to derivative financial instruments, less cash and cash equivalents. The capital structure as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 is as follows:

	2015	2014
Bank indebtedness	**$ 34.3**	$ 5.2
Long-term debt	**5,856.4**	5,278.3
Embedded derivatives related to convertible debentures	**221.7**	232.2
Convertible debentures	**500.0**	500.0
Derivative financial instruments	**(953.7)**	(298.1)
Cash and cash equivalents	**(18.6)**	(395.3)
Net liabilities	**5,640.1**	5,322.3
Equity	**$ 652.0**	$ 1,063.3

The Corporation is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements other than certain restrictions under the terms of its borrowing agreements, which relate, among other things, to permitted investments, inter-corporation transactions, the declaration and payment of dividends or other distributions.

30. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Compensation of key management personnel

Key management personnel comprises members of the Board of Directors and key senior managers of the Corporation and its main subsidiaries. Their compensation is as follows:

	2015	2014
Salaries and short-term benefits	**$ 10.5**	$ 11.0
Share-based compensation	**6.6**	(0.1)
Other long-term benefits	**1.5**	7.9
	$ 18.6	$ 18.8

Operating transactions

During the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation and its subsidiaries made purchases and incurred rent charges with affiliated corporations in the amount of $3.4 million ($2.9 million in 2014), which are included in purchase of goods and services. The Corporation and its subsidiaries made sales to affiliated corporations in the amount of $3.3 million ($3.3 million in 2014). These transactions were accounted for at the consideration agreed between parties.

31. PENSION PLANS AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Corporation maintains various flat-benefit plans, various final-pay plans with indexation features from zero to 2%, as well as defined contribution plans. The Corporation also provides postretirement benefits to eligible retired employees. The Corporation's pension plans are registered with a Québec or federal regulatory authority.

The Corporation's funding policy for its funded pension plans is to maintain its contribution at a level sufficient to cover benefits and to meet requirements of the applicable regulations and plan provisions that govern the funding of the plans. These provisions establish, among others, the future payment of amortization payments when the degree of solvency of the pension plans is less than 100% as defined by the relevant Québec and federal laws. Payments are determined by an actuarial report performed by an independent company at least every three years or annually, according to the applicable laws and in accordance with plan provisions.

By their design, the defined benefit plans expose the Corporation to the typical risks faced by defined benefit plans, such as investment performance, changes to the discount rates used to value the obligation, longevity of plan participants, and future inflation. The administration of the plans is assured by pension committees composed of members of the plans, independent members of the Corporation's management or the Corporation, in accordance with the provisions of each plan. Under the Corporation's rules of governance, the approval and oversight of the defined benefit plan policies are performed at different levels through the pension committees, the Corporation's management, or the Audit Committee. The risk management of pension plans is also performed under the leadership of these committees at various levels. The custody of securities and management of security transactions are assigned to trustees within a mandate given by the pension committee or the Corporation, as the case may be. Policies include those on investment objectives, risk-mitigation strategies and the mandate to hire investment fund managers and monitor their work and performance. The benefit pension plans are monitored on an ongoing basis to assess the benefit, funding and investment policies, financial status, and the Corporation's funding requirement.

31. PENSION PLANS AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

The following tables show a reconciliation of the changes in the plans' benefit obligations and the fair value of plan assets for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Change in benefit obligations				
Benefit obligations at the beginning of the year	**$ 1,181.8**	$ 991.6	**$ 65.2**	$ 54.3
Service costs	**36.4**	31.4	**1.7**	1.1
Interest costs	**49.0**	50.9	**2.7**	2.6
Plan participants' contributions	**13.1**	14.6	**–**	–
Actuarial loss arising from:				
Demographic assumptions	**–**	12.2	**–**	0.4
Financial assumptions	**19.9**	136.7	**1.3**	4.8
Participant experience	**6.1**	(2.3)	**–**	3.5
Benefits and settlements paid	**(66.5)**	(54.4)	**(1.7)**	(1.5)
Curtailment, amendments and other	**(7.0)**	1.1	**–**	–
Benefit obligations at the end of the year	**$ 1,232.8**	$ 1,181.8	**$ 69.2**	$ 65.2

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Change in plan assets				
Fair value of plan assets at the beginning of the year	**$ 1,115.6**	$ 976.7	**$ –**	$ –
Actual return on plan assets	**59.3**	118.7	**–**	–
Employer contributions	**43.3**	60.0	**1.7**	1.5
Plan participants' contributions	**13.1**	14.6	**–**	–
Benefits and settlements paid	**(66.5)**	(54.4)	**(1.7)**	(1.5)
Fair value of plan assets at the end of the year	**$ 1,164.8**	$ 1,115.6	**$ –**	$ –

As of December 31, 2015, the weighted average duration of defined benefit obligations was 16.0 years (16.7 years in 2014). The Corporation expects future benefit payments of $59.2 million in 2016.

31. PENSION PLANS AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

The Corporation's investment strategy for plan assets takes into account a number of factors, including the time horizon of the pension plans' obligations and the investment risk. For each of the plans, an allocation range by asset class is developed, whereby a mix of equities and fixed-income investments is used to optimize the risk-return profile of plan assets and to mitigate asset-liability mismatch.

Plan assets are comprised of:

	2015	2014
Equity securities:		
Canadian	**21.4 %**	22.4 %
Foreign	**33.8**	32.3
Debt securities	**42.3**	41.8
Other	**2.5**	3.5
	100.0 %	100.0 %

The fair value of plan assets is principally based on quoted prices in an active market.

Where funded plans have a net defined benefit asset, the Corporation determines if potential reductions in future contributions are permitted by applicable regulations and by collective bargaining agreements. When a defined benefit asset is created, it cannot exceed the future economic benefit that the Corporation can expect to obtain from the asset. The future economic benefit represents the value of reductions in future contributions and expenses payable to the pension fund. It does not reflect gains that could be generated in the future that would allow reductions in contributions by the Corporation. When there is a minimum funding requirement, this could also limit the amount recognized in the balance sheet. A minimum funding requirement represents the present value of amortization payments based on the most recent actuarial financing reports filed.

The reconciliation of funded status to the net amount recognized in the consolidated balance sheets is as follows:

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Benefit obligations	**$ (1,232.8)**	$ (1,181.8)	**$ (69.2)**	$ (65.2)
Fair value of plan assets	**1,164.8**	1,115.6	**–**	–
Plan deficit	**(68.0)**	(66.2)	**(69.2)**	(65.2)
Asset limit and minimum funding adjustment	**(21.7)**	(4.4)	**–**	–
Net amount recognized[1]	**$ (89.7)**	$ (70.6)	**$ (69.2)**	$ (65.2)

[1] The net amount recognized for 2015 consists of a liability of $158.9 million included in Other liabilities (note 22) and for 2014, it consists of an asset of $3.3 million included in Other assets (note 18), a liability of $136.8 million included in Other liabilities and a liability of $2.3 million included in liabilities held for sale.

31. PENSION PLANS AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

Components of re-measurements are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Actuarial loss on benefit obligations	**$ (26.0)**	$ (146.6)	**$ (1.3)**	$ (8.7)
Actual return on plan assets, less interest income anticipated in the interest on the net defined benefit liability calculation	**16.2**	71.6	**–**	–
Asset limit and minimum funding adjustment	**(17.3)**	29.8	**–**	–
Re-measurements recorded in other comprehensive income	**$ (27.1)**	$ (45.2)	**$ (1.3)**	$ (8.7)

Components of the net benefit costs are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Employee costs:				
Service costs	**$ 36.4**	$ 31.4	**$ 1.7**	$ 1.1
Curtailment, settlement and other	**(2.8)**	3.7	**–**	–
Interest on net defined benefit liability	**3.5**	2.6	**2.4**	2.5
Net benefit costs[1]	**$ 37.1**	$ 37.7	**$ 4.1**	$ 3.6

[1] Net benefit gains of $6.0 million in 2015 were presented as part of discontinued operations (net benefit costs of $5.1 million in 2014).

The expense related to defined contribution pension plans amounted to $16.0 million in 2015 ($15.3 million in 2014), of which $0.4 million ($1.5 million in 2014) is presented as part of discontinued operations.

The expected employer contributions to the Corporation's defined benefit pension plans and post-retirement benefit plans will be $42.0 million in 2016, based on the most recent financial actuarial reports filed (contributions of $45.0 million were paid in 2015).

<u>Assumptions</u>

The Corporation determines its assumption for the discount rate to be used for purposes of computing annual service and interest costs based on an index of high-quality corporate bond-yield and matched-funding yield curve analysis as of the measurement date.

31. PENSION PLANS AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

Assumptions (continued)

The actuarial assumptions used in measuring the Corporation's benefit obligations as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and current periodic benefit costs are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Postretirement benefits	
	2015	2014	**2015**	2014
Benefit obligations				
Rates as of year-end:				
Discount rate	**4.00 %**	4.10 %	**4.00 %**	4.10 %
Rate of compensation increase	**3.00**	3.00	**3.00**	3.00
Current periodic costs				
Rates as of preceding year-end:				
Discount rate	**4.10 %**	4.90 %	**4.10 %**	4.90 %
Rate of compensation increase	**3.00**	3.00	**3.00**	3.00

The assumed average retirement age of participants used was of 62 years in 2015 and 2014.

The assumed health care cost trend rate used in measuring the accumulated postretirement benefit obligations was 7.0 % at the end of 2015. These costs, as per the estimate, are expected to decrease gradually over the next 10 years to 4.5% and to remain at that level thereafter.

Sensitivity analysis

An increase of 10 basis points in the discount rate would have decreased the pension benefits obligation by $18.9 million and the postretirement benefits obligation by $1.4 million as of December 31, 2015. There are limitations to this sensitivity analysis since it only considers the impacts of an increase of 10 basis points in the discount rate assumption without changing any other assumptions. No sensitivity analysis was performed on other assumptions as a similar change to those assumptions would not have a significant impact on the consolidated financial statements.

32. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On January 7, 2016, Videotron acquired Fibrenoire Inc. ("Fibrenoire"), a company that provides businesses with fibre-optic connectivity services. The transaction will enable Videotron Business Solutions and Fibrenoire to join forces to meet the growing demand from business customers for fibre-optic connectivity. The purchase price was $125.0 million, including $120.6 million paid at the closing, subject to certain adjustments.