



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2021-22**

ENSURING A  
CONNECTED, SECURE,  
AND EQUITABLE  
DIGITAL FUTURE FOR  
EVERY ALBERTAN.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

"If you don't change with the times, the times are going to change you." I think we've all experienced a little bit of both in the last three years, i.e. attempting to stay ahead of new developments, while being shaped by forces beyond our control. *Resilient yet flexible* has become the modus operandi for many of us in the public sector! Where we can foresee challenges or necessary changes (emerging cybersecurity threats, growing demands for key digital skills), we address them. When an unforeseen event occurs (global supply chain shortages, pandemic spikes forcing the closure of buildings), we adapt.

When I reflect on the past year, I am simply awed by the volume of things Cybera has accomplished: network upgrades, new security services and shared procurements launched, events hosted, learnings shared. This is all thanks to our amazing, dedicated staff, who have worked with our amazing, dedicated community reps through incredibly difficult times.

If there's one thing we've learned over the last three years, it's the power of community. In Alberta's post-secondary sector, we're seeing a collaborative effort to build not only shared services and procurements, but also platforms for sharing concerns, ideas,



and knowledge. This group has embraced the village mindset to address everything from IT best practices, to how to develop a collective response to cybersecurity threats. And this desire to share and learn from each other is extending to other sectors as well.

Through our recent community research to build Cybera's *2022-25 Strategic Roadmap*, a common request we heard was for Cybera to facilitate collective knowledge sharing on everything from how to build a security response plan, to best practices for recruiting skilled workers.

Based on this feedback, Cybera has adapted our five core operating areas to place renewed emphasis on the vital infrastructure and services we have been operating for years (networking, security, and advocacy), while zeroing in on other service areas that are highly appreciated by our members (i.e. providing a platform for collaboration, and supporting the development of key skills). You can see highlights of our accomplishments in these five core areas in the pages that follow.

(You can also see more details on what we learned from our community research on page 13.)

Finally, under the theme of changing with the times, I want to draw your attention to the beautiful artwork decorating this annual report. It was all created by artificial intelligence (specifically by an AI art generating tool called *Midjourney*). What does this mean for the future of human-machine innovation, creation, and intellectual property ownership? We don't really know yet. But we're open to adapting new tools like these, and sharing what we learn with our community.



Barb Carra, *President and CEO*





# CONNECT



As education and public organizations resumed in-person activities over the last fiscal year, there was a noticeable rise in Cybera's network traffic. Our network transported 54.3 PB between April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022, a 28% increase over the previous year.

Fortunately, our network team was prepared for this increase, having doubled Cybera's capacity to the Alberta SuperNet between Edmonton and Calgary (from 20 Gbps to 40 Gbps) in September 2021.

## TECH EXPLORATION

As part of our new Network Lab's focus on open switch technologies, the team explored a network operating system that could serve as an alternative to our Arista-based switches. The goal is to provide more network choices, while lowering licensing and support costs. While we have not yet found a production-ready solution, our team continues to investigate this opportunity.

The network team also upgraded the capacity of our Elasticsearch environment. This environment collects "NetFlow" information, which provides additional network traffic metadata not displayed in traditional network statistics. The capacity increase allows us to store data for the next 3.5 years.

## NATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Participating in a National Research & Education Network (NREN) Mapping project to dynamically visualize the connections within the national network.
- Participating in a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) project to develop common processes and metrics to be used across the NREN.
- Participating in a NREN Network Operations project to enable greater collaboration between network operators.

## GLOBAL INITIATIVES

We continue to meet regularly with the International Center for Advanced Internet Research and AARNET (the NREN for Australia) to discuss and monitor advances in advanced research and education networking.



# ADDITIONAL CONNECT ACHIEVEMENTS

106

Member organizations

~749,000

Albertans connected to  
Cybera's network

+54,300 TB

Data transported  
in 2022 fiscal

94

Peering service member  
organizations

71

Internet Buying Group  
member organizations

+\$3,100,000

Gross member savings from network services



# SKILLS



With the return to in-person events, Cyberans found their calendars filling up once again with workshop and conference presentations. This included the Statistics Canada 2021 International Methodology Symposium, where Cybera's developers demonstrated a machine learning framework that forecasts employment gaps and in-demand skills in Alberta. This project, which our team has been working on for over two years, could eventually be used to guide everyday Albertans through their professional development decisions.

## DATA SCIENCE WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING

The Data Science for Albertans team ran two (oversubscribed) fellowship programs over the past fiscal year — pairing budding data scientists with local businesses to carry out a short-term data science project:

- Summer 2021: 19 emerging data scientists were paired with five industry partners (United Way - Alberta Capital Region, Alberta 211, Hockey AI, Applied Optimal, IronSight, and Deep Surface AI). Technical support and virtual machines were provided by ISAIC. Financial support was provided by the Calgary Innovation Coalition through Alberta Innovates' Regional Innovation Networks program.
- Fall 2021: Cybera worked with ISAIC to deliver a fellowship that saw five data science students from the University of Calgary paired with a local health startup company.

Our data science team also undertook seven consultations with local companies looking to start their first data science / machine learning project.

## CALLYSTO PHASE 3

Cybera and the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences received a two-year federal funding boost to continue the Callysto project, which is helping Canadian classrooms incorporate data science and new digital literacy tools. Over the past fiscal year, the team led 25 presentations to teachers (and pre-service teachers) across Western Canada, to train them on Callysto.

The team also introduced Callysto to a group of Indigenous students attending a "Diversity in Math" camp in July 2021, and donated six laptops for students in need.

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS ACHIEVEMENTS

21

Classrooms using Rapid  
Access Cloud  
(↑ 24% over previous year)

\$1,579,000

Gross member savings from  
using Rapid Access Cloud

34

Workshops delivered

7

Data science consultations  
with organizations

\$149,000

Gross member savings from  
data science services







# WHAT WE LEARNED FROM THE COMMUNITY: NEEDS AND GAPS

In the last fiscal year, Cybera ran a series of focus groups and surveys with our community. We wanted to get their input for our *2022-25 Strategic Roadmap*, and also to get a sense of the priorities (and pain points) for Alberta's public and education sectors.

## **CURRENT AND FUTURE PRIORITIES**

**Connectivity, transitioning to cloud, and cybersecurity** were the main priorities across all sectors, both now and in the future.



## ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

### K-12

- Protecting identities of students, particularly when using third-party systems
- Integrating multiple systems into a single solution
- Increasing bandwidth capabilities

### Post-Secondary Institutions

- Investigating automation tools to improve operational efficiencies
- AI and machine learning, both for research and classroom work
- Effective data architecture and management
- Creating a smart campus

### Government/Enterprise/Non-Profit:

- Accessing high-capacity, affordable, and secure cloud computing resources
- Learning how to effectively manage (and analyze) data, including cross-border data
- Staying up-to-date with new digital advances

## GAPS

Funding and finding/retaining skilled personnel were listed as the biggest challenges facing organizations.

Other critical gaps identified:

- Lack of universal connectivity across Alberta (particularly for rural and remote students and workers)
- Lack of skills / understanding of how to utilize more digital resources within organizations
- Lack of shared resources and templates for areas such as data management, end user security training, etc

To learn more, read the full outreach report: [cybera.ca/research22](https://cybera.ca/research22)

# COLLABORATION



More and more, Alberta's public and education sectors are looking to Cybera to not only build shared digital infrastructure, but also facilitate knowledge-sharing opportunities.

### Shared Procurement

In the last fiscal year, eight new master agreements were added to the ShareIT catalogue of offerings, including virtual desktop infrastructure, web conferencing services, firewalls, and phishing and security awareness training.

The ShareIT team also led a cybersecurity assessment procurement for the National Research and Education Network, which will benefit institutions across the country.

### Shared Services and Collaborations

Cybera launched a K-12 Advisory Committee in 2021, which identified a shared procurement pilot project as a high priority for the sector. ShareIT has since established a K-12 Oversight Committee made up of 15 K-12 representatives from across Alberta. This committee is working towards its first procurement project.

The ShareIT team also completed a Cloud Criteria Assessment collaboration with seven post-secondary institutions, resulting in a vendor assessment template that is now available to all PSI members.

In May 2021, Cybera signed a memorandum of understanding with Platform Calgary, with the purpose of fostering growth within Calgary's technology ecosystem. As part of this agreement, the organizations will work collaboratively to ensure Calgary achieves its goal of tripling the city's existing tech sector in the next ten years.

## EDUROAM ALL THE THINGS!

Cybera is supporting the growth of **eduroam**, a secure wifi service for the global research and higher education community that is utilized by millions of staff and students in over 100 countries. In October 2021, the City of Calgary became the first municipality in Alberta, and the second in Canada, to offer eduroam. In March 2022, the City of Edmonton followed suit, opening up eduroam access to all public wifi locations.

## ADDITIONAL COLLABORATION ACHIEVEMENTS

63

ShareIT member  
organizations

(26 Post Secondary, 37 K-12)

8

New contracts added

\$18.77 million

ShareIT member spend

\$5.3 million

ShareIT member savings  
(↑ 50% over previous year)

24

PD&T sessions held  
(638 course  
participants)

8

Shared  
procurement  
working groups  
(56 participants)

3

Collaboration  
working groups  
(29 participants)

15

eduroam participating organizations





ADVOCACY





In April 2021, shortly after hosting the first ever **Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum**, Cybera teamed up with a group of community associations, academics and individuals to launch the **Alberta Rural Connectivity Coalition**. Together, the group will look to hold knowledge sharing events, share advocacy efforts, and work with the Government of Alberta to improve internet access and pricing issues in the province. So far, 40 organizations and 11 individuals have signed on.

After a year of researching, Cybera's policy team also unveiled a comprehensive update to the *State of Alberta Digital Infrastructure Report*. See page 37 for more details on the issues and opportunities for Albertans highlighted by the report.

## BRIDGING DATA SCIENCE WITH ADVOCACY

In spring 2021, Cybera and ISAIC hosted a month-long “Bridging the Connectivity Challenge” hackathon. The event brought together more than 100 registrants to find data-driven solutions and tactics to address rural internet access gaps. One of the winning teams demonstrated that communities with poor internet speeds saw an increase in social service benefit requests, highlighting the social (and economic) benefits of improved connectivity.

## CYBER SUMMIT HITS (VIRTUAL) HIGH FOR ATTENDANCE

The 2021 **Cyber Summit** successfully pivoted to a 100% virtual event in fall 2021, precipitated by an uptick in COVID-19 cases in Western Canada. Ironically titled *Moving to the 'new normal'*, the event presented a variety of academic, public sector, and business views on how our work, learning, and social lives are changing online, and what issues to look out for. The event saw a record 250+ participants.

# ADDITIONAL ADVOCACY ACHIEVEMENTS

## CRTC submissions

- Responded to CRTC's "Wholesale Rate" decision (May 2021)
- Responded to the call for comments on the "Review of Wholesale Access to Building Wire" (January 2022)

## Other federal submissions

- Responded to the Global Affairs Canada Consultation on "Canada's possible Ascension to the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement" (April 2021)
- Responded to the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada "Consultation on New Access Licensing Framework" (December 2021)

57

### Presentations / workshops delivered

(Cybera's September 28 webinar on Canadian spectrum policies and their impact on rural and remote connectivity had nearly 80 participants)

30,500

Visitor's to Cybera's website



# SECURITY



Nationally, Cybera has played a significant role in the National Research and Education Network (NREN) and its work to improve the security of Canada's R&E network and community. Some of these activities over the last fiscal year included:

- Leading the development of a National Cybersecurity Assessment, the NREN's first nationally funded, regionally delivered service for post-secondary institutions
- Participating in the national security information and event management (SIEM) project, which is developing common responses, training, and maintenance procedures for cybersecurity events
- Implementing Mutually Agreed Norms for Routing Security (MANRS), which will help secure the NREN
- Working with CANARIE's Cybersecurity Initiative Program to offer four federally-funded cybersecurity services to Alberta post-secondary institutions: CIRA DNS firewall, CUCCIO Benchmarking Assessment, CanSSOC Threat Feed, and an Intrusion Detection System

## NEW CYBERA SERVICES

In March 2022, Cybera announced three new security services for Cybera members to be launched in spring 2022:

- **Miridor** — An intrusion detection system service that gives connected members a single, detailed overview of potential indicators of compromise on their network
- **Threat Feed For Education** — A threat intelligence feed platform that allows schools to configure their network protection devices against the latest cybersecurity threats
- **Cybera Security Nexus** — An expertise and resource program that offers three modules: (1) Cybersecurity assessment, (2) Training on how to close the security gap, and (3) One-on-one security expertise

## PROVINCIAL NEXT STEPS

**AB SecureIT**, a collaboration of all 26 Alberta post-secondary institutions, completed an Information Security Assessment pilot to identify common threats (such as botnet infections and out-of-date systems) and goals to work towards. Over the past year, participants also worked together to create common language and categories for their cybersecurity systems, and developed a practice of routinely sharing sensitive event

and incident information. As the program winds down in spring 2022, the group will continue to meet to identify cybersecurity concerns, and workshop solutions.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY ACHIEVEMENTS

\$566,055

Gross member savings from security services

33

Virtual Firewall Service member organizations

25

Cybersecurity Initiative Program participant organizations

25

CUCCIO  
Benchmarking  
Assessment

22

CanSSOC  
Threat Feed

21

CIRA DNS  
Firewall  
Service

19

Intrusion  
Detection  
System





# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors met four times during the reporting period. At the 2021 AGM, we welcomed one new member to our Board of Directors: Edward Lipin (Director of Technology, Medicine Hat Public School Division). He replaced outgoing board member Etienna Moostoos-Lafferty. Cybera would like to thank Etienna for her support and commitment to moving our mandate forward during her time on our board!

## THE 2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Mike MacGregor**  
*(Chair)*  
Vice Provost and AVP of Information Services and Technology (IST) at the University of Alberta



**Mark Humphries**  
*(Vice Chair)*  
Chief Information Officer at the University of Lethbridge



**Susan Skone**  
Associate Vice-President (Research) at the University of Calgary



**Roy Daykin**  
Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Corporate Services at SAIT



**Solange Gagnebin**  
President at High Level Analytics



**John Schutte**  
Director of Information Technology at Calgary Catholic School Division



**Helen Wetherley Knight**  
Founder, H Knight Nonprofit Consulting



**Edward Lipin**  
Director of Technology at Medicine Hat Public School Division.



**Trevor Butler**  
General Manager of Information Technology Services & Digital Transformation at the City of Lethbridge.

# MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

## Post-Secondary Institutions

Alberta University of the Arts  
Ambrose University  
Athabasca University  
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity  
Bow Valley College  
Burman University  
Concordia University of Edmonton  
Keyano College  
The King's University  
Lakeland College  
Lethbridge College  
MacEwan University  
Medicine Hat College  
Mount Royal University

NAIT  
NorQuest College  
Northern Lakes College  
Northwestern Polytechnic  
Olds College  
Portage College  
Prairie College  
Red Deer Polytechnic  
SAIT Polytechnic  
St. Mary's University  
University of Alberta  
University of Calgary  
University of Lethbridge

## Public and Not-for-Profit Organizations

Alberta Innovates  
Blue Mountain Power Co-op  
Edmonton Public Library  
French National Centre for Space Studies (CNES)  
Genome Alberta  
German Aerospace Center  
Grande Prairie Public Library

MindFuel  
Northern Lights Library System  
OpenBSD Foundation  
Peace Library System  
Pinnguaq Association  
Platform Calgary  
Red Deer Public Library

## Municipalities, Towns and Counties

City of Calgary  
City of Edmonton  
City of Lethbridge  
City of Red Deer

Clearwater County  
Lac La Biche County  
Town of Drayton Valley

## K-12 School Districts

Alberta Conference SDA Church  
Aspen View School Division  
Battle River School Division  
Black Gold Regional Division No.18  
Buffalo Trail Public Schools  
Calgary Board of Education  
Calgary Catholic School District  
Calgary Girls' School  
Canadian Rockies School District No.12  
Chinook's Edge School Division No.73  
Clearview Public Schools  
Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord  
Conseil scolaire FrancoSud  
East Central Alberta Catholic Schools  
Edge School for Athletes  
Edmonton Public Schools  
Evergreen Catholic Regional Division No.2  
Foothills School Division  
Fort McMurray Public School District  
Fort Vermilion School District No.52  
Foundations for the Future Charter Academy  
Glenmore Christian Academy  
Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools  
Grande Prairie Public School District No.2357  
Grande Yellowhead Public School Division  
Grasslands Regional School Division No.6  
Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic

Separate School District No. 734  
High Prairie School Division No.48  
Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No.37  
Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate School Division  
Horizon School Division No.67  
Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority  
Lethbridge School District No.51  
Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No.42  
Medicine Hat Catholic School Board  
Medicine Hat School District No.76  
Northern Gateway Public Schools  
Northern Lights School Division No.69  
Northland School Division No.61  
Palliser Regional Schools No.26  
Parkland School Division No.70  
Peace River School Division No.10  
Peace Wapiti School Division No.76  
Pembina Hills Public Schools  
Prairie Land School Division  
Prairie Rose School Division No.8  
Red Deer Catholic Division No.39  
Red Deer Public Schools  
St. Albert Public Schools  
St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Division No.38  
STEM Innovation Academy  
Stoney Education Authority  
Sturgeon Public School Division No.24  
Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools  
Wild Rose School Division No.66  
Wolf Creek Regional Division No.32

## Private Organizations

Whipcord Ltd.

And independent Auditors' Report thereon  
Year ended March 31, 2022

**And independent Auditors' Report thereon  
Year ended March 31, 2022**

14. [www.1000000.org](http://www.1000000.org)

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 84

A 1500 Minutes

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of Cybera Inc.

### OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Cybera Inc. (the Entity), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes net assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at March 31, 2022, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the **"Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements"** section of our auditors' report.

We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

### AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion.



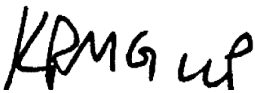
Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Chartered Professional Accountants

Calgary, Canada  
July 20, 2022

# Statement of Financial Position

MARCH 31, 2022, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2021

|  | 2022                | 2021                |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                     |                     |
| Current Assets:                                      |                     |                     |
| Cash and cash equivalents                            | \$ 679,572          | \$ 69,871           |
| Short-term investments (note 7)                      | 4,958,259           | 3,832,082           |
| Accounts receivable and accrued receivables (note 2) | 764,578             | 785,931             |
| Prepaid expenses                                     | 111,984             | 244,071             |
|  | <u>6,514,393</u>    | <u>4,931,955</u>    |
| Property and equipment (note 3)                      | 58,309              | 94,208              |
|  | <u>\$ 6,572,702</u> | <u>\$ 5,026,163</u> |

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

|  |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current liabilities:                                   |                     |                     |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities               | \$ 541,269          | \$ 298,443          |
| Deferred revenue (note 4)                              | 3,583,589           | 1,894,812           |
|  | <u>4,124,858</u>    | <u>2,193,255</u>    |
| Net assets (note 5)                                    | 2,447,844           | 2,832,908           |
| Economic dependence and government assistance (note 6) |                     |                     |
| Commitments (note 9)                                   |                     |                     |
|  | <u>\$ 6,572,702</u> | <u>\$ 5,026,163</u> |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved by the Board:

Signed (Mike MacGregor, Chair)

Signed (Roy Daykin)

# Statement of Operations

MARCH 31, 2022, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2021

|   | 2022             | 2021             |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Revenues:                                     |                  |                  |
| Grant   | \$ 1,564,294     | \$ 2,392,894     |
| Project                                       | 4,397,490        | 3,557,271        |
| Membership                                    | 612,790          | 612,956          |
| Other   | 34,804           | 28,762           |
| Interest                                      | 28,056           | 71,536           |
| CEWS (note 6)                                 | 340,089          | 1,276,485        |
|   | <u>6,977,523</u> | <u>7,939,904</u> |
| Expenses:                                     |                  |                  |
| Project                                       | \$ 3,838,634     | \$ 3,500,250     |
| Infrastructure                                | 1,083,911        | 1,054,288        |
| Project and partnership development           | 1,273,280        | 926,634          |
| General and administrative                    | 713,585          | 627,554          |
| Marketing and communications                  | 391,350          | 311,397          |
| Depreciation                                  | 61,827           | 66,013           |
|   | <u>7,362,587</u> | <u>6,486,136</u> |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses | \$ (385,064)     | \$ 1,453,768     |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Statement of Changes in Net Assets

MARCH 31, 2022, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2021

|   | 2022                | 2021                |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Net assets, beginning of year                 | \$ 2,832,908        | \$ 1,379,140        |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses | (385,064)           | 1,453,768           |
| Net assets, end of year                       | <u>\$ 2,447,844</u> | <u>\$ 2,832,908</u> |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Statement of Cash Flows

MARCH 31, 2022, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2021

|  | 2022         | 2021         |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Cash provided by (used in):                      |              |              |
| Operations:                                      |              |              |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses    | \$ (385,064) | \$ 1,453,768 |
| Add item not affecting cash:                     |              |              |
| Depreciation                                     | 61,827       | 66,013       |
|  | (323,237)    | 1,519,781    |
| Changes in non-cash working capital:             |              |              |
| Accounts receivable                              | 21,353       | 111,916      |
| Prepaid expenses                                 | 132,089      | (123,340)    |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities         | 242,826      | (324,948)    |
| Deferred revenue                                 | 1,688,777    | (1,281,168)  |
|  | 1,761,806    | (97,759)     |
| Investing:                                       |              |              |
| Change in short-term investments                 | (1,126,177)  | (69,131)     |
| Purchase of property and equipment               | (25,928)     | (58,572)     |
|  | (1,152,105)  | (127,703)    |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 609,701      | (225,462)    |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year     | 69,871       | 295,333      |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of year           | \$ 679,572   | \$ 69,871    |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

MARCH 31, 2022, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2021

## General:

Cybera Inc. ("Cybera") was incorporated on January 12, 1994 under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act as a corporation without share capital as WurcNet Inc. In 1999 it changed its name to Netera Alliance Inc. and in 2007 it changed its name to Cybera Inc. Cybera was continued under the Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act on November 27, 2013.

Cybera is an Alberta-based, not-for-profit alliance that manages large-scale inter-institutional information and communication technology projects, including research networks, high performance computing resources, digital content projects and collaboration facilities.

The objectives of Cybera are to provide information and communications infrastructure, project management, advocacy and technical expertise to leverage the resources, skills and services of its members, without preference or partiality to any individual member.

As a not-for-profit organization, the income of Cybera is not subject to tax under paragraph 149(1)(i) of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

### (a) Basis of presentation:

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the Chartered Professional Accountants ("CPA") Handbook.

On March 11, 2020, the Coronavirus COVID-19 ("COVID-19") outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. This has resulted in governments worldwide, including the Canadian government, enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures include implementation of travel bans, self-imposed quarantine periods and social distancing, which are causing material disruption to businesses globally and in Canada, resulting in an economic slowdown. Governments and central banks have reacted with significant monetary and fiscal interventions designed to stabilize economic conditions. These measures have caused a significant increase in economic uncertainty, with reduced demand for commodities leading to volatile prices and currency exchange rates, and a decline in long-term interest rates. These factors may impact future funding. The potential direct and indirect impacts of the economic downturn have been considered in the Cybera's estimates and assumptions at year end and have been reflected in the results.

Market conditions had improved over the course of 2022 as nations began re-opening their economies. In addition, while vaccines are widely available, there is uncertainty as to the timing, level of adoption, duration of efficacy and overall effectiveness of the vaccine against variants or mutations.

While the full impact is not yet fully known, Cybera will continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic and reflect the consequences as appropriate in accounting and reporting. Cybera continues to use its assets and meet its current obligations as the come due.

### (b) Revenues:

Revenue from membership dues is recognized evenly over the term of the membership.

Project and grant revenues, which are comprised of contributions towards project and infrastructure costs, is recognized using the deferral method. Under this method, restricted contributions are recognized as revenue when the related project costs are incurred. Restricted contributions received in a period before the related expenses are incurred are accumulated as deferred revenue. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable.

Interest income is recognized when earned.

### (c) Project expenses:

As part of the development of applications for high speed networks, Cybera provides funding for certain research and development projects. Cybera charges costs incurred on these projects to



operations as incurred. Typically, Cybera does not retain ownership rights in the results of these projects, rather, these rights reside with the project participants on a basis defined in the respective project agreements.

*(d) Cash and cash equivalents:*

Cybera considers deposits in banks, certificates of deposit and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less as cash and cash equivalents.

*(e) Short-term investments:*

Short-term investments have original maturities of over three months and less than a year.

*(f) Property and equipment:*

Property and equipment is recorded at cost. Depreciation of computer equipment is provided using the straight-line method at a rate of one-third of cost per year.

*(g) Donations of services:*

Cybera receives from its members and others, donations of professional time and services. The value of these donations is not included in these financial statements as the related fair value cannot be reasonably determined.

*(h) Use of estimates:*

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Estimates include the valuation of accounts receivable, estimated life of property and equipment and accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

These estimates and judgments have been made taking into consideration the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the significant economic volatility and uncertainty it has created, however, the future impact of COVID-19 cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

*(i) Financial instruments:*

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. Cybera has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the effective interest rate method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, Cybera determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount Cybera expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

*(j) Government assistance:*

Cybera applies for financial assistance under available government programs. Government assistance is recorded in income for the period to which it relates.

## **2. Accounts receivable:**

Included in accounts receivable are government remittances receivable of \$68,622 (2021 -

\$24,625), which include amounts receivable for input tax credits.

### 3. Property and equipment:

|                    |              |                          | 2022           | 2021           |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                    | Cost         | Accumulated amortization | Net book value | Net book value |
| Computer equipment | \$ 1,040,987 | \$ 982,678               | \$ 58,309      | \$ 94,208      |

### 4. Deferred revenue:

Deferred revenue represents restricted contributions received that relate to expenses of future years. Contributions are recorded as deferred revenue until the related expenditures have been incurred.

The components of deferred revenue as at March 31 were as follows:

|   | 2022         | 2021         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Balance, beginning of year                                  | \$ 1,894,812 | \$ 3,175,980 |
| Less: amounts recognized as revenue in the year             | (3,987,080)  | (1,584,001)  |
| Add: amounts received related to expenses of future periods | 2,248,303    | 302,833      |
|   | \$ 3,583,589 | \$ 1,894,812 |

### 5. Net assets:

In the event of dissolution or winding-up of Cybera, all of its remaining assets, after payment of its liabilities, would be distributed to other not-for-profit organizations by the Board of Directors.

### 6. Economic dependence and government assistance:

Cybera's future operations are dependent on continued funding from the Alberta Government.

Cybera periodically applies for financial assistance under available government incentive programs.

During the year, the Government of Canada created the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ("CEWS") program to provide wage assistance to entities who experienced a drop in revenues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, Cybera met the eligibility requirements for certain months and applied for CEWS. As at March 31, 2022, Cybera recognized CEWS revenue of \$340,089 (2021 - \$1,276,485), of which \$340,089 (2021 - \$1,182,681) was received in the year ended March 31, 2022.

### 7. Short-term investments:

Short-term investments represent term deposits with original maturity dates of more than three months and maturing within one year of the statement of financial position date. The interest rates on these short-term investments are between 1.4% and 2.55%.

### 8. Financial instruments and related risks:

Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities:

Financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and short-term investments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying value due to their short term nature.

(a) Credit risk:

Accounts receivable are subject to minimal credit risk as the majority of the receivables are from government-sponsored institutions. Cash and cash equivalents are held at financial institutions that are considered to be creditworthy by Cybera.

(b) Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk arises from the holdings of fixed income securities. For every 0.25% change in interest rates, the annual change in interest income would be approximately \$14,095 (2021 - \$9,755).

(c) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that Cybera will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. Cybera is not exposed to significant liquidity risk and manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements.

There has been no change to the risk profile when compared to prior year, other than the potential impact of COVID-19 as described in note 1(a) and note 1(h).

## 9. Commitments:

Cybera is committed under a long-term office lease agreement. Estimated payments with respect to the lease commitments for office premises over the next five years are as follows:

|      |    |        |
|------|----|--------|
| 2023 | \$ | 32,532 |
| 2024 |    | 32,532 |
| 2025 |    | 32,532 |
| 2026 |    | 18,977 |
| 2027 |    | -      |

# IDENTIFYING ALBERTA'S INTERNET GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES



After a year of researching, Cybera unveiled a comprehensive update to its *State of Alberta Digital Infrastructure Report*. This timely analysis came as internet connectivity and access to high-speed broadband took on heightened levels of importance in the province due to COVID-19.

The updated report, first published in 2014, provides an incredibly detailed review of Alberta's digital capabilities. This includes networking policies, regulations, and fibre projects in the province, as well as new advancements in wireline, wireless and terrestrial technologies.

While multiple levels of government have acknowledged and responded to Canada's connectivity crisis over the course of the pandemic, the *Digital Infrastructure Report* shows that significant issues still persist, with existing programs and providers continuing to leave rural, remote and First Nations communities behind.

The key issues and opportunities for Alberta identified in the report include:

- Gaps in the broadband speed maps used by federal regulators to determine who should get infrastructure funding, and how to address them.
- The emergence of community broadband networks.
- Changes to the Alberta 2018 SuperNet contract, including new requirements for supporting rural connectivity.
- Emerging technologies, such as 5G, Internet of Things, and Low Earth Orbit satellites.

The report will exist as a living document that will be updated periodically to stay as current as possible.

To view the report, visit [wiki.cybera.ca/display/DIR](https://wiki.cybera.ca/display/DIR).





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