

The Hon. Mélanie Joly, PC, MP Minister of Industry Melanie.Joly@ISED-ISDE.gc.ca

Dear Minister Joly,

I write to you with the upmost urgency, to ask you to take immediate action today to protect the privacy of Canadians and ensure the safety of Canada's wireless infrastructure network. In short, Canada's digital sovereignty and security will be at risk should you fail to act. I met with USW representatives today, who are very concerned that tomorrow, Friday October 31, 2025, Ericsson will lay off over 100 Canada-based workers, specialists whose work is to maintain and monitor Rogers Wireless Network infrastructure. Many of those who are facing imminent layoffs have been obliged to train their replacements in India.

By firing Canadian workers, and shipping technically sensitive jobs overseas, Canadians wireless infrastructure is now at risk as is their data privacy and sovereignty. By removing workers from Canada, there is a loss of control over and oversight of Canada's wireless communications network which will have negative impacts on everyday Canadians, and could result in significant threats to national security and Canadians' privacy.

Furthermore, there is the not unrealistic possibility that nefarious foreign actors could track the devices of Canadians and others (including those persons targeted by foreign governments and regimes) thereby exposing them to surveillance and targeting.

This is to say nothing of the loss of well-paying Canadian jobs during a time of economic upheaval. By allowing this, from one of the biggest telecoms in Canada, the federal government is tacitly approving the replacement of Canadian jobs with cheap overseas labour.

Canada's focus should be keeping Canadian telecom network jobs in Canada to ensure Canada's telecom infrastructure security including monitoring and servicing functions. Canada's communication backbone must remain on Canadian soil to ensure our lasting national security assets.

I am calling on you to block Ericsson's plan to offshore Canadian jobs to India.

Our national telecom networks are the foundation of Canadians everyday lives. Service interruptions and attacks on our vital systems would significantly damage our national sovereignty, security, and privacy.

I look forward to you acting to save the jobs of hard-working Canadians and protect Canada's telecom infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Heather McPherson

MP - Edmonton Strathcona