Telecommunities Canada (TC) is a registered non-profit community organization which was formed as an association of associations at a meeting in Ottawa in the summer of 1994. It is a networked community of practice for sharing and advocating the experience of community online as a process. It began as a group of Free-Nets but has evolved into what are now more generally known as "community networks." In Canada, this includes a federally supported national network of CAP (Community Access Program) sites which provide access and training in new media in approx 3000 communities across the country.

Telecommunities Canada Objectives
- To ensure that all Canadians are able to participate in community-based communications and electronic information services by promoting and supporting local community network initiatives.
- To represent and promote the Canadian community networking movement at the national and international level.

Telecommunities Canada activities and accomplishments

Research: the community partner to a 5-year national research project to study the impact of local public access sites on communities (Canadian Research Alliance for Community Networking and Innovation [CRACIN])

Advocacy:
- Formal interventions in hearings of the Canadian Radio Television Telecommunication Commission (CRTC) on various telecommunications issues affecting community access programs;
- Internet for Everyone Campaign (www.internetforeveryone.org/) calling for a national broadband strategy that includes public access and training programs;
- Presentations and briefs to national consultations on telecommunications policy and the digital economy;
- Member of ICANN and the Canadian Internet Registration Association (CIRA);
- Participants in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the Internet Governance Caucus;
- Hosting forums on the future of the Internet at the municipal level, forums that ask, "In a Digital Age, what kind of a society do you want?"
- Partnering with other national public interest groups in Internet related issues (spectrum auction, net neutrality);
- Providing an on-line space and monthly telephone conferences for community partners across Canada to discuss Internet issues and design advocacy campaigns to support them;
- Supporting community-based approaches to the uses of the Internet for socio-economic development and political transformation.

Telecommunities Canada

*North American Regional At-Large Organisation (**NARALO**)*