




# **Q1 2010 Financial Results and Conversion to a Corporation**

**Investor Conference Call  
May 5, 2010**

**Bell**Aliant

# Agenda

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- 1 Focus and Acceleration of Core Strategies
  - 2 Q1 2010 Financial Performance
  - 3 Conversion Plan and Dividend Policy
  - 4 Question Period

# Forward-looking Caution

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The presentation and answers today may contain forward-looking statements related to the future financial condition and results of operations of Bell Aliant. Consequently, please refer to the “Forward-looking information” section of our Q1 2010 Earnings news release dated May 4, 2010, as well as the Bell Aliant Regional Communications Income Fund and Bell Aliant Regional Communications Holdings, LP Management’s Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) for the quarter ended March 31, 2010, as posted on [www.bellaliant.ca](http://www.bellaliant.ca) and as filed on SEDAR.

All of the forward-looking statements made in the course of this presentation describe management’s expectations at May 4, 2010, and are qualified by the cautionary statements found in the above mentioned documents, and there can be no assurance that the results or developments anticipated by us will be realized, or, even if substantially realized, they will have the expected consequences for us. Except as may be required by Canadian securities laws, we disclaim any intention and assume no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements even if new information becomes available, as a result of future events or for any other reason. Participants should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements.



# **Focus and Acceleration of Core Strategies**

# Strategic Priorities

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**Improve The Customer Experience**

**Retain Our Customers**

**Grow Broadband**

**Reset Our Cost Structure**

**Engage Employees**

# Accelerated FTTH Rollout

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- Provides a significant competitive advantage
  - Ideal architecture to handle future bandwidth requirements
  - Aerial infrastructure makes it cost effective for us
- Accelerating FTTH supports all strategic priorities
  - Growing broadband
  - Retaining and gaining customers
  - Providing better service
  - Lowering costs
- Plan to invest \$350 million over 2011 and 2012
  - Adds \$100 million to annual capex run rate for those years
  - Brings coverage to over 600,000 homes and business or approximately 1/3 of competitive footprint by end of 2012
- Best investment for long term sustainability of the business



# Union agreement

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- Tentative agreement with Atlantic CEP
  - Represents approximately 3,000 unionized employees in Atlantic Canada
  - Union leadership recommending acceptance
  - New agreement if ratified will extend to December 31, 2014
- “Win – win” for company and employees
- Provides
  - Increased security
  - Labour stability
  - Opportunity to reduce future costs
  - Ability to enhance customer service and improved competitiveness of the business

# Q1 2010 Results



# Q1 2010 Financial Highlights

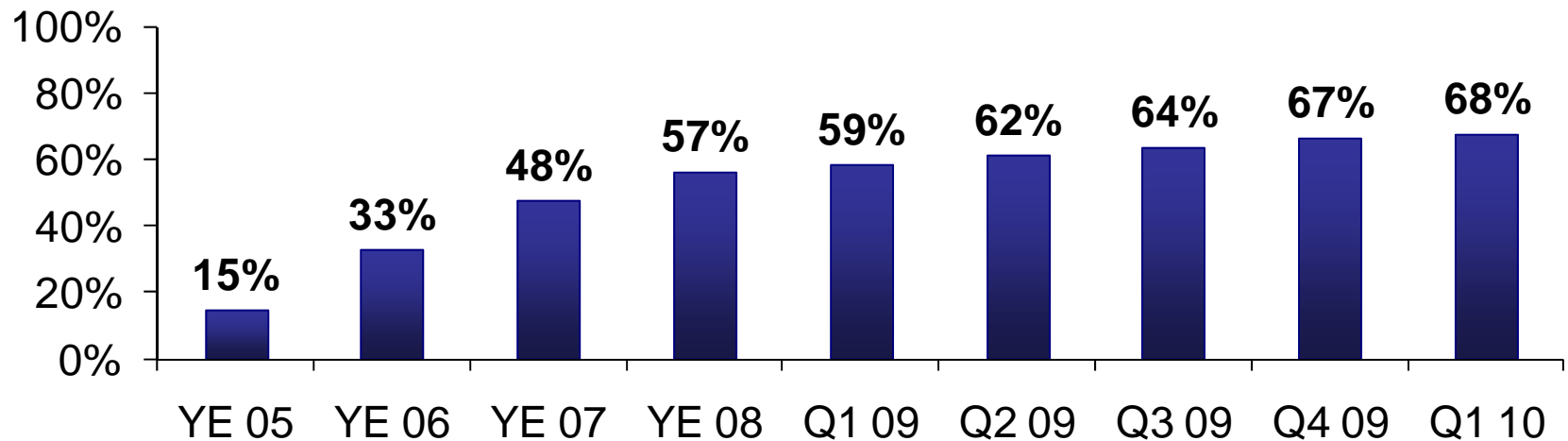
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<i>(\$ millions)</i>	Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
Revenue	<b>\$779</b>	(4.9%)
EBITDA	<b>\$354</b>	(1.4%)
EBITDA Margin	<b>45.4%</b>	1.6%
Capital Expenditures	<b>\$95</b>	(11.7%)
Distributable Cash	<b>\$200</b>	1.9%

# Local and long distance

<i>\$ millions</i>	Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
Local Revenue	\$323	(4.5%)
Long Distance Revenue	\$97	(8.4%)

## Competitive Footprint (Cable Telephony)



# NAS

*thousands*

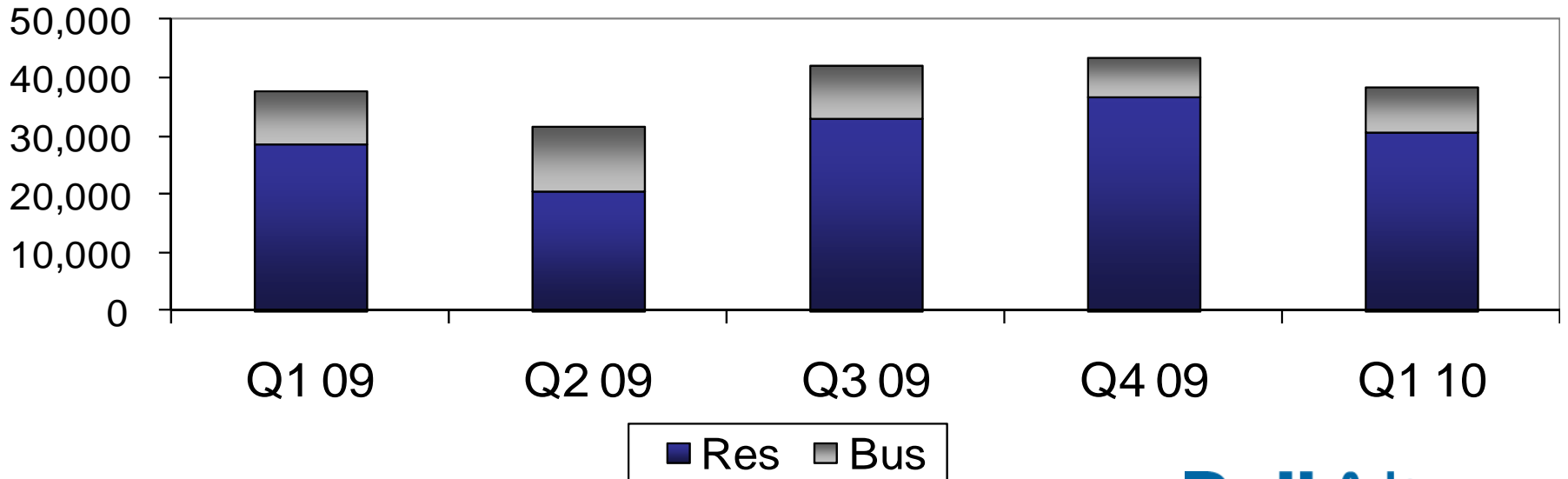
Residential

Business

Total NAS

	Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
Residential	1,891	(6.0%)
Business	997	(3.4%)
Total NAS	2,888	(5.1%)

## Quarterly Net NAS Declines



# Internet and Data

(\$ millions)

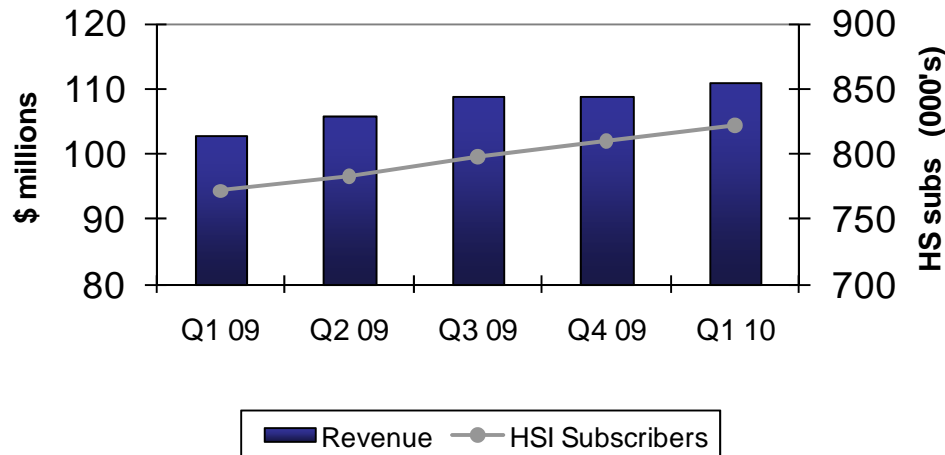
Internet Revenue

Other Data Revenue

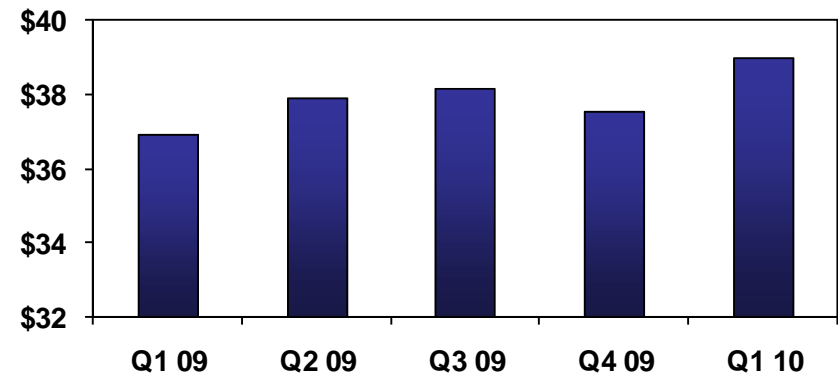
HS customers (000's) – end of period

Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
<b>\$111</b>	8.2%
<b>\$93</b>	(4.6%)
<b>822</b>	6.5%

Internet Revenue and HSI Subscribers



Residential ARPC  
High-Speed Internet



# EBITDA

*\$ millions*

EBITDA

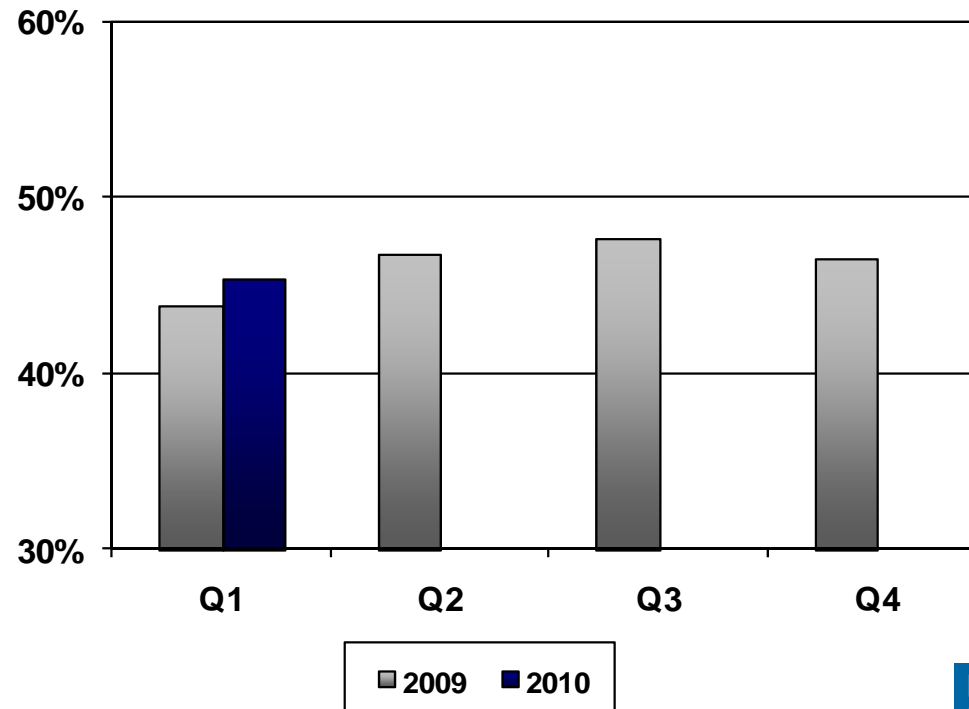
Q1 2010

**\$354**

Y/Y  
Change

(1.4%)

## EBITDA Margin



# CAPEX

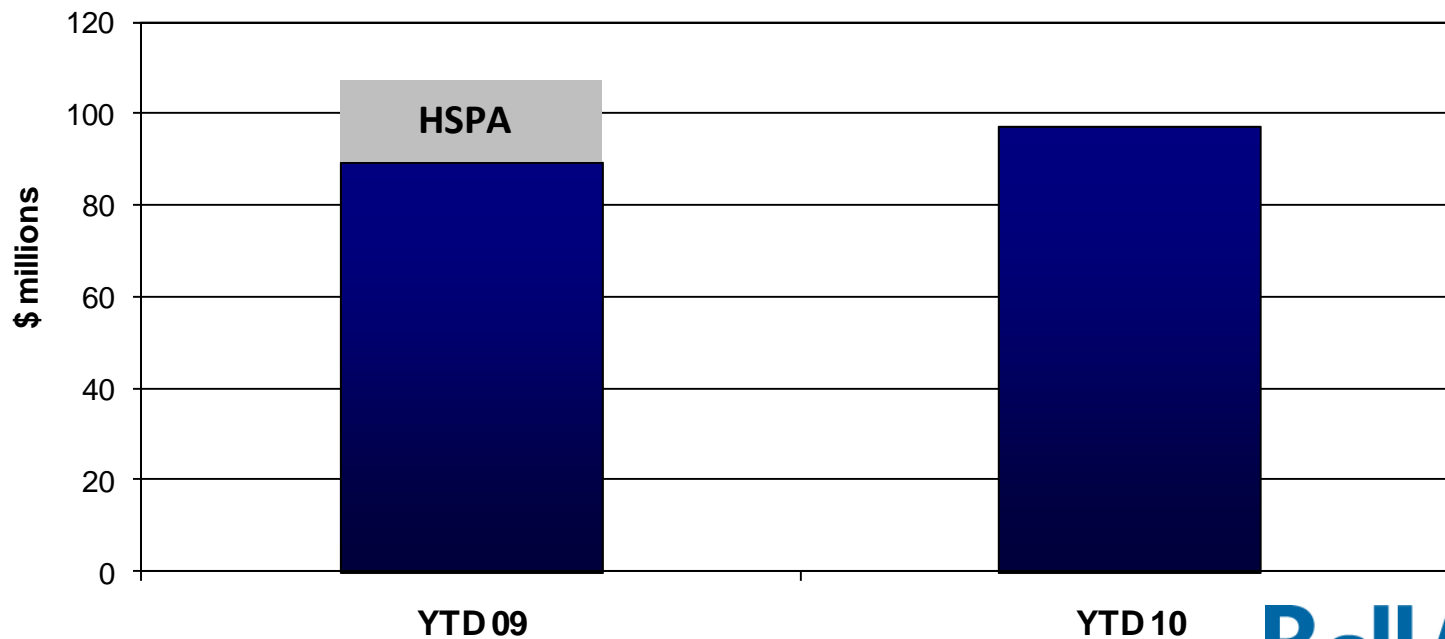
*\$ millions*

Capital Expenditures

Capital Intensity

	Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
Capital Expenditures	\$95	(11.7%)
Capital Intensity	12.2%	(0.9%)

## Capex



# Cash Flow

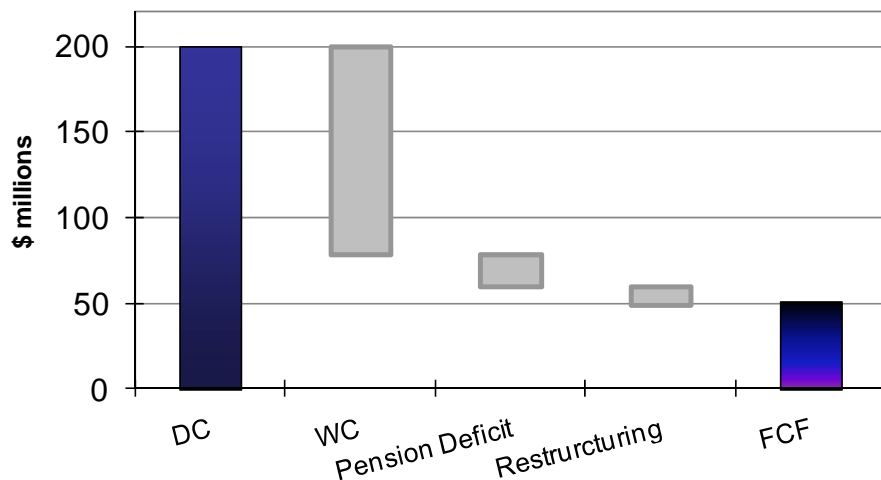
(\$ millions)

Distributable Cash

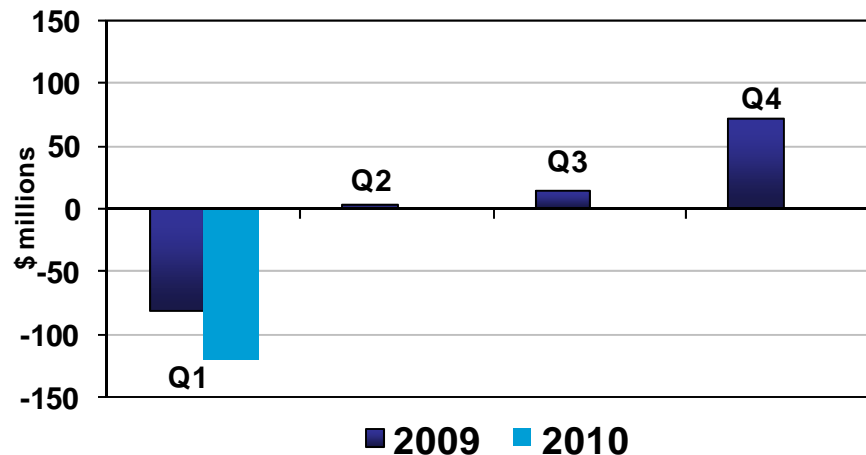
Free Cash Flow

Q1 2010	Y/Y Change
\$200	1.9%
\$51	(44.2%)

Distributable Cash to Free Cash Flow



Working Capital Changes





# **Conversion to a Corporation**

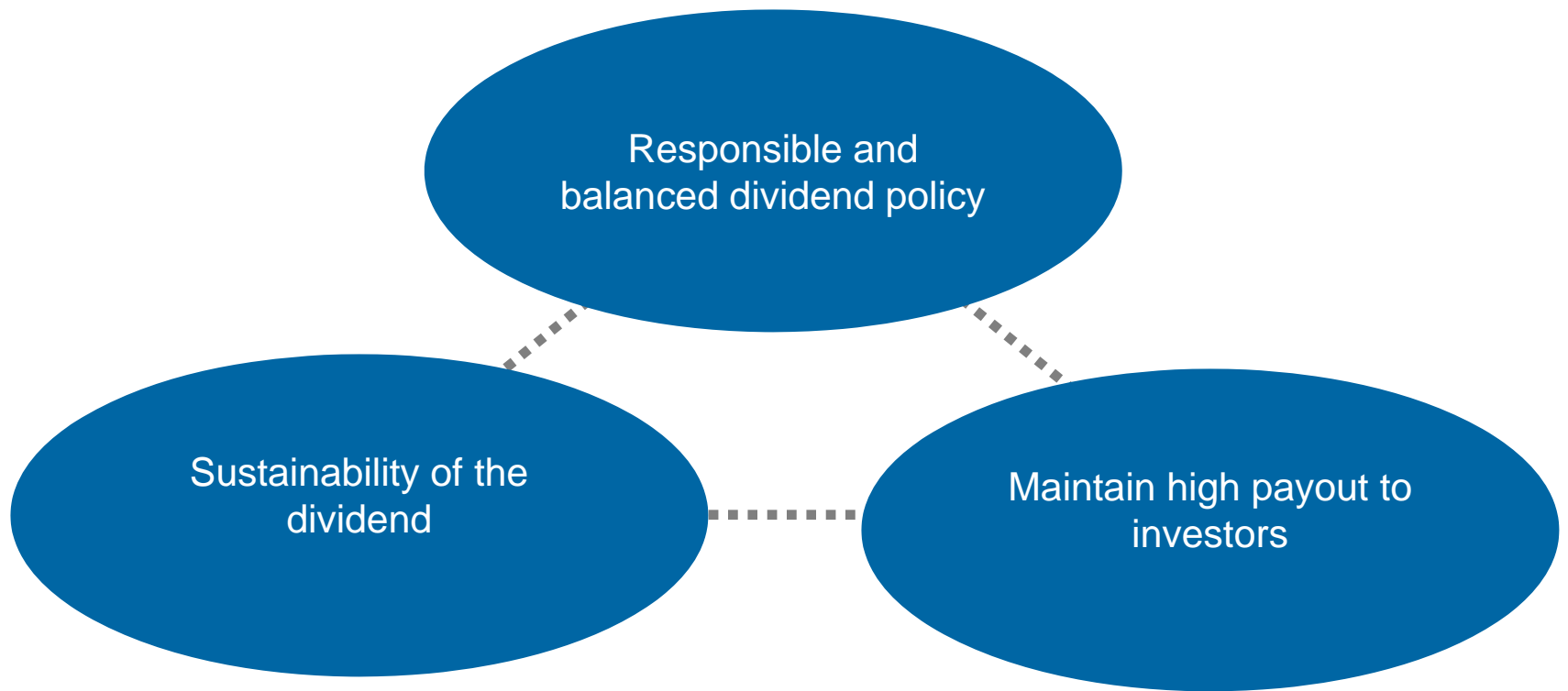
# Benefits of the conversion

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- Bell Aliant will be subject to income tax beginning in 2011 whether or not the conversion occurs
- Corporate structure will be simpler
  - lower administrative costs than our more complex trust structure
  - easier to understand
- Corporation will make us more comparable to other publicly traded businesses
- Potentially enhanced marketability and liquidity

# Dividend Policy Key Considerations

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**Sustainability of the dividend is the over-riding objective**

# Dividend policy

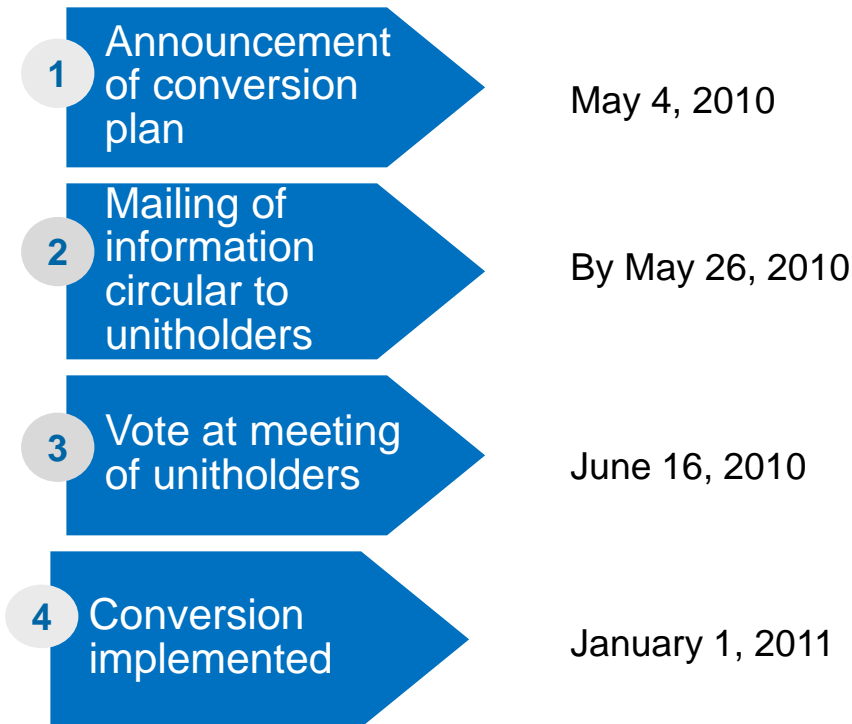
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- In setting the dividend policy we considered
  - Long term sustainability of the dividend
  - Financial outlook for the business
  - Maintenance of financing flexibility and credit ratings
  - Practice of peers
- Target 75 – 85 per cent payout of free cash flow
- Initial dividend of \$0.475 paid quarterly (\$1.90 annually) beginning in 2011
  - Yield of 7.5 per cent at today's unit price
- Individual taxable investors who are residents of Canada will benefit from dividend tax credit
- Balance of free cash flow used primarily to reduce debt levels

# Conversion timeline

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## The Path to Conversion



- No less than 2/3 of the votes cast at the meeting required for approval of the conversion
- Other regulatory approvals also required

# Questions

**Bell Aliant Investor Relations**

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**BellAliant**