



WESTMAN | COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

**WESTMAN COMMUNICATIONS GROUP
BRINGING NEW COMMUNICATION CHOICES TO
GILBERT PLAINS AND GRANDVIEW**

GILBERT PLAINS & GRANDVIEW MB; May 1, 2018 – Westman Communications Group is pleased to announce that it is making a \$1.2 million investment to upgrade its network facilities in Gilbert Plains and Grandview in August 2018. This upgrade will give residents and businesses access to Westman's high speed Internet options, enhanced video services, and for the first time, they will have a choice for phone services.

The local community councils have voiced their support of Westman bringing services to the towns. "The residents of the Gilbert Plains Municipality are very excited and looking forward to a new choice for internet and home phone services," said Blake Price, the Reeve of Gilbert Plains. "Grandview Municipality is pleased to see that Westman is bringing high speed Internet to Grandview," said Grandview Mayor, Lyle Moran. "This will provide additional communication choices for the residents and businesses of Grandview."

"Gilbert Plains and Grandview households will have Internet download speed options ranging from 12 Mbps to 150 Mbps; the fastest Internet available in town," said Dave Baxter, President and Chief Executive Officer of Westman Communications Group. "This makes the Internet experience more enjoyable from using streaming services such as Netflix and YouTube, to downloading music and videos, interactive gaming and online shopping."

Westman will be bringing more video choices to Gilbert Plains and Grandview, as customers will now have access to over 300 TV channels including over 100 in high definition, as well as our Video On Demand service with over 5,000 titles. Baxter adds, "Perhaps the most exciting aspect of our video portfolio is that Gilbert Plains and Grandview residents will have access to Westman's new and enhanced whole home entertainment service, TiVo."

"Westman's TiVo service includes the most advanced multi-room HD-DVR available in Manitoba, and for the first time, seamlessly integrates both over the top (OTT) streaming services and Cable TV content all in one easy to use platform. Access to Netflix, YouTube and more on your TV is now easier than ever," continues Baxter. "Additionally, TiVo allows you to

watch and record up to six programs at once with 1 terabyte of storage space, so TV viewing will now be on your schedule, anytime, anywhere in your home.”

The addition of Home Phone to Westman’s services in Gilbert Plains and Grandview means that for the first time ever, residents can choose which company provides their phone service.

Westman’s Phone service includes free features such as Call Display, Voicemail and Call Waiting and if you choose, you can keep your current phone number. Baxter points out, “Based on our experience in markets where we have recently launched home phone service, we expect it to be popular. It’s easy to switch – just call our office and we’ll take care of all the details.”

Westman is planning for an August launch and will be hosting a series of Open Houses in Gilbert Plans and Grandview closer to the launch date, giving residents an opportunity to see firsthand their new entertainment options. More details will be provided in the coming months including special offers to customers who sign up for services before the launch.

About Westman Communications Group

Westman Communications Group is the operating name for Westman Media Cooperative Ltd., which provides service throughout Western Manitoba. Westman is a customer-owned cooperative, which operates cable systems in 37 communities. Westman is a leader in communication services including Internet, cable TV and phone. Westman also owns and operates local radio stations Q Country 91.5 FM and 94.7 STAR FM, which broadcast throughout Western Manitoba. Westman is proud of its strong commitment to its customers and the communities it serves.

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