



CommuniFi Bridging Canada's Digital Divide with CIRA's Net Good Grants

CHARLES NOIR, VICE-PRESIDENT
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT, POLICY & ADVOCACY

What is Net Good?

- Funded by .CA revenue
- **Communities, projects and policies** that make Canada's internet a better place
- Three pillars: **infrastructure, online safety and policy engagement**





About Net Good Grants

- We fund community-led internet projects to build a resilient, trusted and secure internet for all Canadians
- Over a million dollars a year since 2014 to support 232 projects
- Open to non-profits, charities, academics at Canadian universities and colleges, and Indigenous communities
- Learn more at cira.ca/grants



Why Net Good Grants

- Filling critical gaps in Canada's digital landscape
- Giving back through community-driven impact
- Elevating CIRA's brand and partnerships
- Powering purpose across all our work





CommuniFi: Free Community WiFi in Ottawa



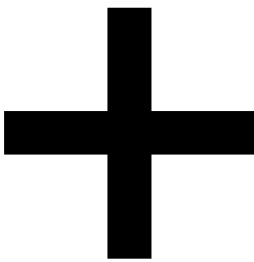
Why CommuniFi?

- ***Net Good*** supports critical programs that connect underserved communities
- **CIRA Priorities:** Northern, rural, and Indigenous communities, K-12 and post-secondary students
- **Gap:** Urban, low-income communities lacking affordable internet access



CommuniFi Partners

Two Non-Profits



Two Municipal Agencies





CIRA's DNS Firewall

All network data is anonymized and filtered for phishing, malware and botnet attacks using CIRA's DNS Firewall service

30120

Total Web Filter blocks
for Family Network

3831

Total Phishing blocks

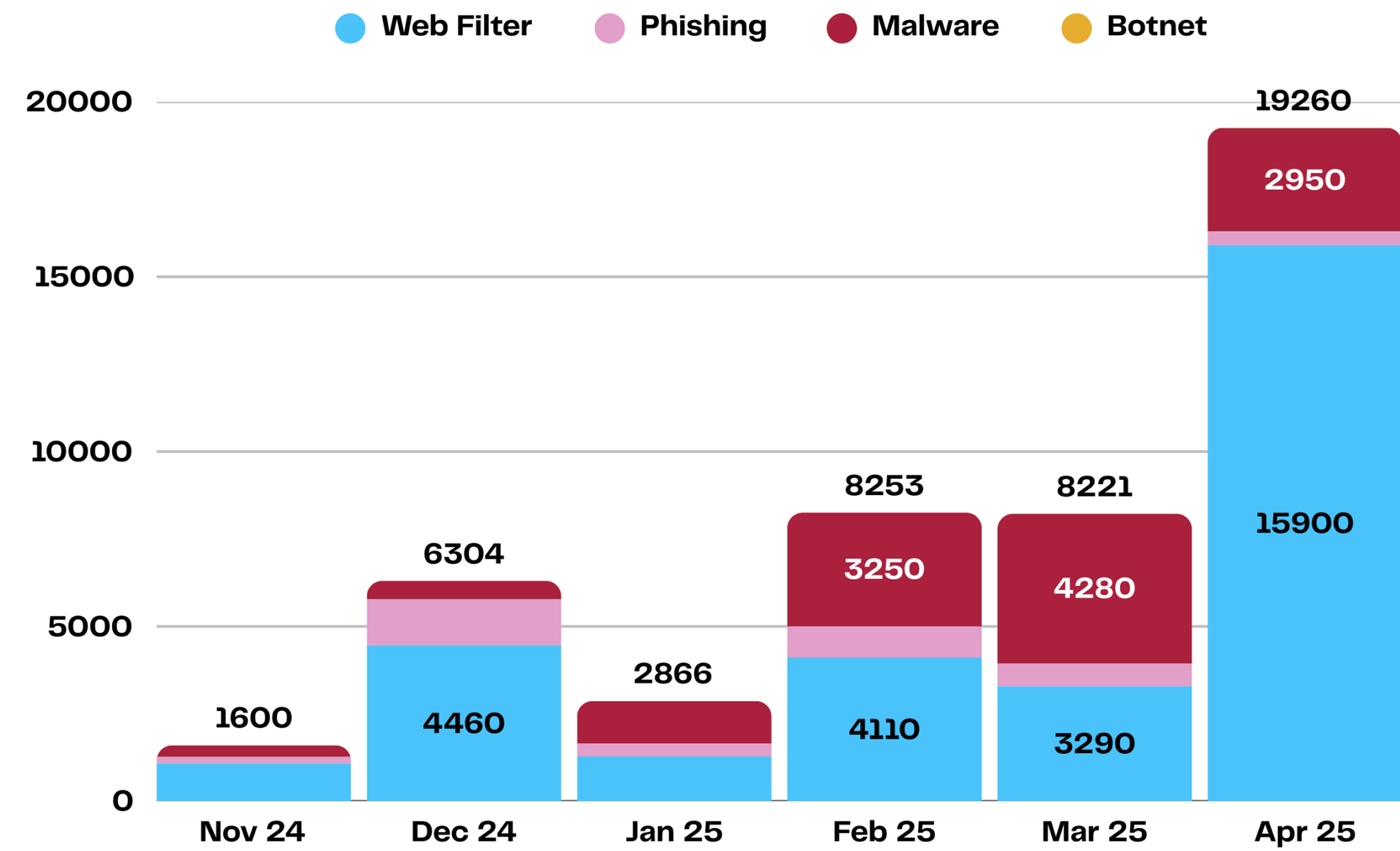
12541

Total Malware blocks

12

Total Botnet blocks

CIRA DNS Firewall Blocks



CommuniFi Overview

- **Phase 1:** Establishing a core fixed wireless network at two community housing buildings in central Ottawa where many tenants cannot afford stable and reliable internet access.

In the first six months, almost **2000 unique devices** have connected to the network.

- **Phase 2:** Expanding the network to connect at least 10 other community organizations within a 5km radius of the supernode.





I think when we talk about equity, this is such a tangible tool. We're talking about providing opportunity to residents who are already experiencing a significant amount of barriers in their life.

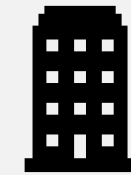
NATALIE DROUIN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER, OTTAWA COMMUNITY
HOUSING





Impact & potential



Growing partnerships to scale project and building sustainability



Sharing NCF's approach and lessons learned to the broader community networking community



Creating a blueprint for similar initiatives across Canada and globally



Questions?



Thank you.



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