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Ongoing Shift to Remotely-Managed Services

Today, customer premises network equipment is becoming physically smaller, with less power consumption and is less interoperable across manufacturers products as the functions listed above are layered inside single boxes instead of filling an entire room. The historically separate network hardware and software are merging into virtual options that rely on stable high-speed internet connectivity with no data charges, something not yet 100% available throughout the Province of BC. What we think are functions inside the box may have already become software centrally delivered from a data centre, which may not be the right solution for everyone if it involves security or protection of personal data in Canada.*I don't know what the above sentence is trying to say - is it something like 'What you think are functions that are built into physical device, may actually be....*'

Unfortunately, buying an already complicated technology that we all completely rely on, is about to become much more opaque. Manufacturers are quite willing to sell these products online with no real technical support through the entire life cycle of the products that they sell. For most small and medium businesses this is not a good route to take. Network technology does not come out of the box and deliver a secure network service without expert configuration. Selection of network solutions will rely more than ever on vendor partners with high experience and knowledge levels in this area.

Internet–centric remote tools and functions are only of use to organizations if the internet service itself is both fast and completely reliable. Choosing internet-dependent services (such as remote data backup, office software or antivirus products) is currently only recommended for libraries with fast, dependable external connections.

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