

## Economic Development/Internet and Cell Committee

Economic Development/Internet and Cell Committee was formed in 2019. The main purpose of the committee is “to make broadband high-speed Internet and cell phone coverage accessible in all areas of the Township, including rural and remote areas”.

The following is a list of presentations, letters and information that represents some of the work that has been done by the since it was formed.

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September 16, 2019	Letter sent to Claude Doucet	Pg 20
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Growing Eastern Ontario By Improving

# Mobile Broadband

Township of Greater Madawaska April 15, 2019



# EORN



- Eastern Ontario Regional Network is NFPO established by the EOWC
- EORN's mission is to make E Ontario one of the best connected regions in North America by:
  - Improving access to high speed internet services through fixed and wired solutions, &
  - Improving access to mobile broadband/cell services

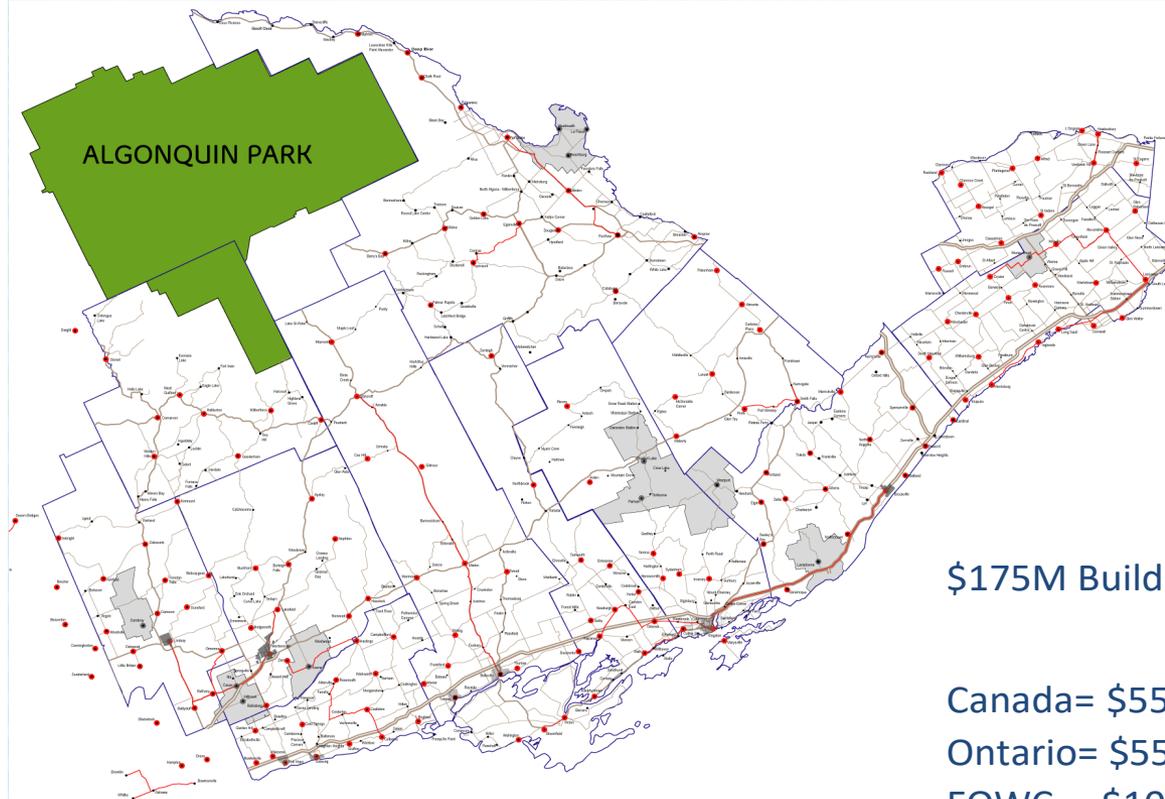


# Working Together : EOWC & EOMC



- 13 Counties
- 10 Separated Cities and Towns
- 113 Municipalities
- 1.2 Million Residents
- 6 First Nations
- 50,000 Square kms

# EORN Project #1



\$175M Build:

Canada= \$55M

Ontario= \$55M

EOWC = \$10M

Private = \$65M



- 50,000 sq km coverage area
- 5,500 km+ of new GigE fiber core
- 160 enhanced Optical Ethernet POPs scalable to 100 Gigs per POP
- Last mile FW, ADSL, Satellite
- 423,000 homes/business with access up to 10Mbps
- 63 fibered business parks
- \$175 million build (\$260 value)
- Connected 4 of 6 First Nations
- Spurring \$100m+ new investments



## Project #2

# Improving Mobile Broadband (Cell) Coverage



# What Is Being Proposed?



## Phase 1:

\$213M PPP that will:

- Grow the region's economy and create jobs (+3,000)
- Improve public safety
- Improve health care delivery
- Support Ontario's push to 5G & the new digital economy
- Provide an additional option to connect to the Internet

## HOW?

- Extend mobile broadband services to E. Ontario by improving existing cellular networks (closing coverage & capacity gaps)



# Benefits

Creating jobs and private sector business growth:

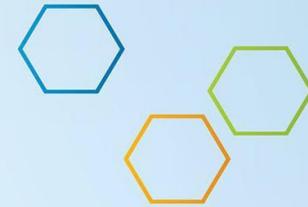
- Potential jobs: 3,000 full-time job equivalents over 10 years.
- Potential revenues: \$420 million in private sector business revenues

Supporting key priorities of the region's Economic Development Strategy:

- Creating an integrated and intelligent transportation system.
- Supporting technological integration and innovation.
- Participating in 5G economy

Smart Cities Infrastructure:

- Better public services
- Improved social connectivity



## Cell Gap

**2014 in areas where there are homes, businesses or major roadways:**

- **18% did not have cell coverage**
- **16% have limited service from one provider**
- **40% don't have enough capacity**

**Today**

- **35% of the area does not have HD services**
- **25% of the area does not have SD services**
- **10% of area has no access to voice calls**

Partners Funding the Project



EOWC/EOMC

\$10M ✓

Canada	\$71M
Ontario	\$71M ✓
Mobile Carriers	\$61M (RFP)
<del>Total</del>	<del>\$213M</del>



## Project Goals

- 99% coverage for cell calling service level
- 95% coverage for SD (standard definition) service level
  - Video-app calls;
  - SD video;
  - Basic app use

# Project Goals



- 85% coverage for HD (high definition) service level
  - Streaming high definition video
- Invest \$34 million in increased capacity/5G network enhancements
  - High density areas
  - High usage areas



# Timeline



December 2014

Gap Analysis  
Completed

\$350,000

January 2017

EOWC #1

Regional  
Priority



**2015-2016**

26+ meetings  
EOWC / EOMC



# Timeline



*May 1, 2017*

**Business Case  
Submitted to  
Canada**

**January 2018**

**EOWC Reaffirms #1**

**Priority**

**May 31, 2017**

**Business Case  
Submitted to  
Ontario**



# Timeline



**Oct 11, 2018**

EOWC/EORN

meet with  
Minister  
McNaughton

**ROMA 2019**

**January 11, 2019**

EOWC Annual  
Meetings #1  
Priority Reaffirmed



# Timeline



April 11, Ontario Budget



Fed - Prov Approvals,  
Spring/Summer

# The Good and the Bad



## Bad News

- Four years and waiting;
- Coverage gaps are expanding not shrinking
- Demand is growing significantly
- Costs are rising
- Businesses are suffering from lack of connectivity

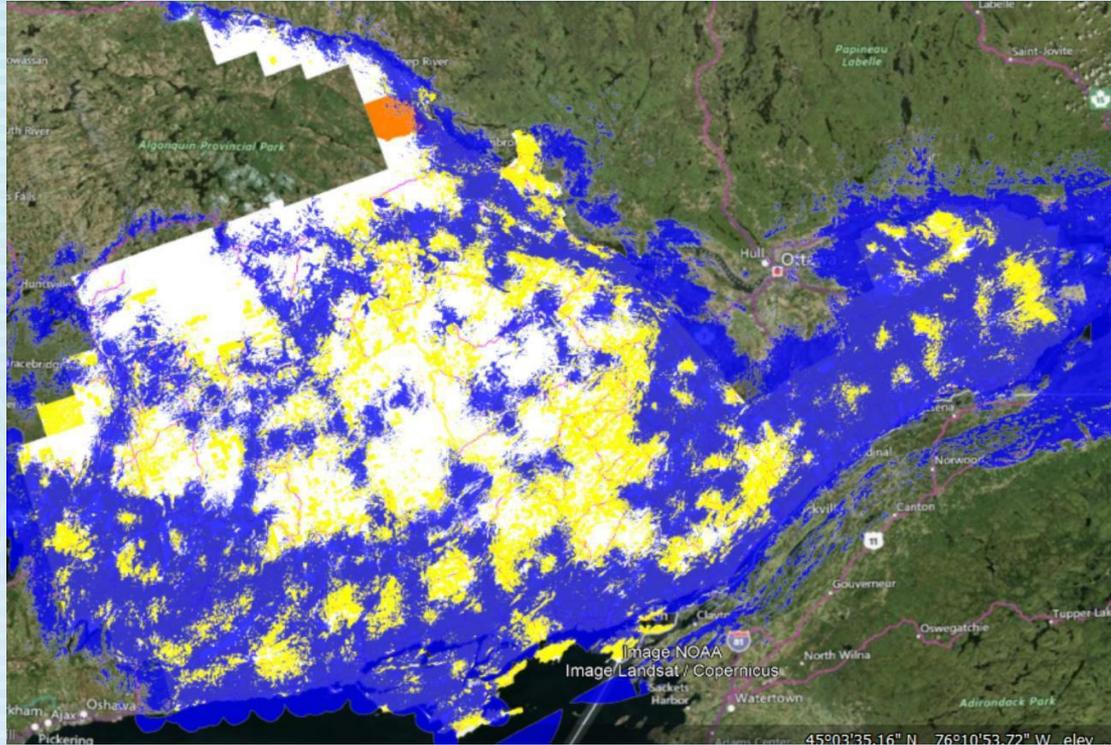


## Good News

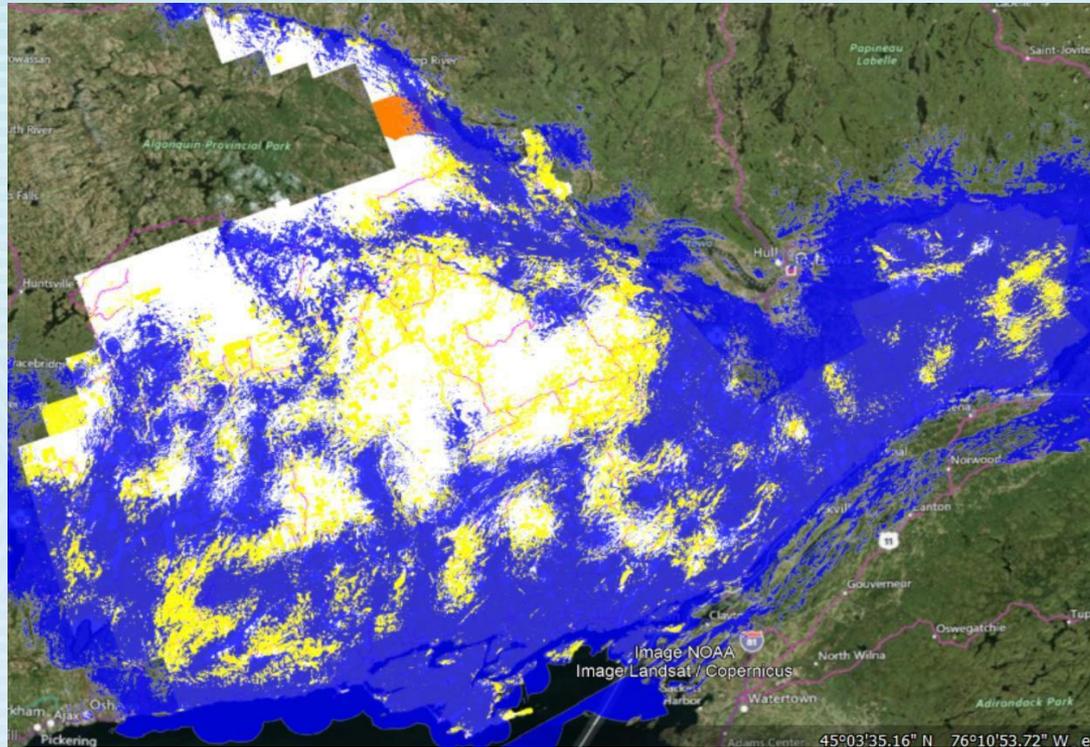
- Together we can deal with cell coverage
- 5G wave is building
- Telecoms actively gearing up for 5G deployment (towers & fiber)
- EORN Project poised to catch the wave (which is essential for a market failure area!)



# Current HD Coverage: Provider A



# Current HD Coverage: Provider B



# Conclusion



- Time is of the essence
- The opportunity to fix our cell problems is now---waiting is not an option
- Carriers are gearing up to spend on new spectrum auctions for 5G (at the expense of improving current gaps)
- Without formal Federal and Provincial financial support before this summer any construction will be delayed into 2020, at the earliest
- **Help us get to YES!!**



September 16, 2019  
Mr. Claude Doucet  
Secretary General  
Canadian Radio-Television and  
Telecommunications Commission  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0N2

**Re: Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2019-57  
Review of mobile wireless services**

Dear Mr. Doucet,

We are writing to express our support for Cogeco's position which is presented to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) as part of the agency's review of the mobile wireless services in Canada.

Cogeco is proposing a new policy and regulatory model, called Hybrid Mobile Network Operator (HMNO), which would reduce barriers of entry for smaller regional broadband operators who want to create new wireless choices for consumers, while fostering innovation and investments in enhanced network infrastructure. This balanced approach would increase mobile options for communities like ours through smaller regional broadband companies, such as Cogeco, who would now have access to portions of national incumbent wireless networks through the HMNO proposal.

As a municipality, we look to collaborate with private operators like Cogeco to improve access to wireless services at affordable rates for our residents and ensure they can access essential services at any time.

More precisely, we support the HMNO model as a key enabler to achieve our goals as it would:

- offer more flexible development of wireless in regional/rural areas which are often best served by smaller and more local players;
- open the door to Canadian regional players like Cogeco, which already serve regional communities, to offer new wireless services and bring new competition;
- incentivize new investments in network improvements and expansions which are important drivers for local economic development.
- provide more choices when it comes to tools and solutions that unlock opportunities for our residents and businesses.

We strongly encourage the CRTC to consider the proposed HMNO model as a means for all communities to fully engage with each other, the rest of Canada, and the global economy.



Brian Hunt, Mayor

September 16, 2019

Cogeco Connexion  
950 Syscon Road  
Burlington, ON  
L7R 4S6

Re: Letter of Support - Collaboration for Granting Access to Broadband Internet and  
Telecommunication Services in The Township of Greater Madawaska

Dear Mr. Shiu,

We are writing to confirm the support of The Township of Greater Madawaska for Cogeco Connexion's project(s) and Governmental funding application(s) intended to ensure that all residents of our community have access to Broadband connectivity.

Cogeco Connexion has demonstrated its:

- interest in Greater Madawaska by seeking meaningful consultation to proactively discuss opportunities for providing broadband internet and mobility services within our community;
- desire for mutual collaboration by sharing data, maps, speed test facilities and project relevant information;
- understanding of Greater Madawaska's connectivity gap and proposing a plan to address it;
- interest to provide the necessary broadband access to the Greater Madawaska's anchor institutions.

As a municipality, we seek to collaborate with private operators, like Cogeco Connexion, to improve access to broadband services at affordable rates for our residents and ensure they can access essential services at any time. The economic development of our Township depends on the availability of the services that Cogeco has proposed. Specifically, we support Cogeco Connexion to:

- propose projects to significantly increase the overall connectivity within the Township of Greater Madawaska.
- jointly identify key anchor institutions, currently underserved or unserved, to be prioritized within our community.
- submit these projects for funding to all relevant broadband and/or infrastructure funding programs.
- actively collaborate with the Township of Greater Madawaska and its residents, to improve access to telecommunication services in our community, in particular to high speed internet services as well as mobility services.

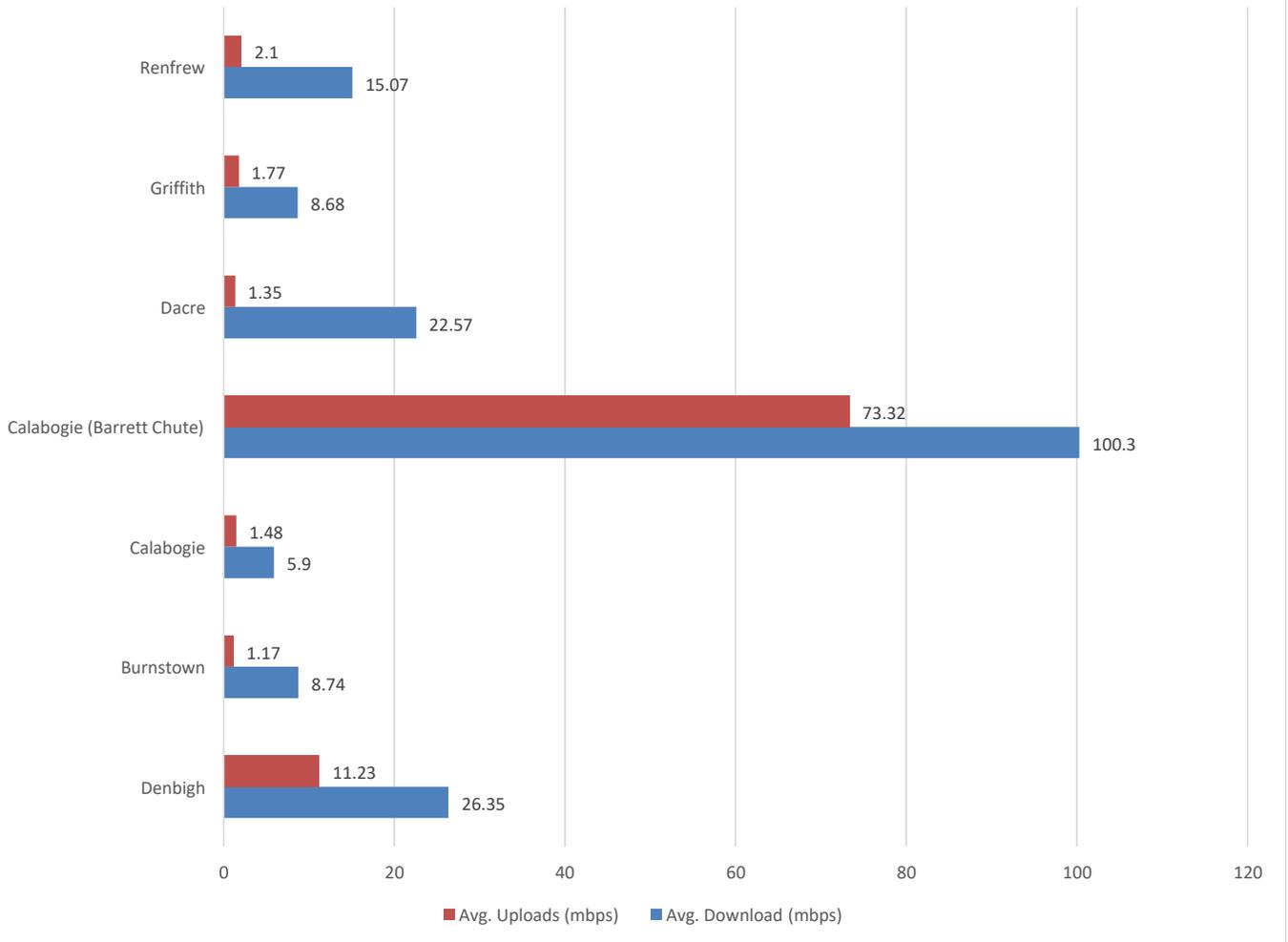
Greater Madawaska strongly encourages the governments of Canada and Ontario, including the CRTC, through funding programs such as the Universal Broadband Fund, the CRTC Broadband Fund and the Broadband and Cellular Infrastructure Program, to consider Cogeco Connexion's proposed projects as a means for our community to fully engage with other municipalities, the rest of Canada, and the global economy.

We look forward to working in mutual collaboration with Cogeco Connexion.



Brian Hunt, Mayor

### Avg. Download and Upload Speeds based on Participants from Speed Test



April 14, 2020

Cogeco Connexion  
950 Syscon Road  
Burlington, ON  
L7R 4S6

Re: Letter of Support - Collaboration in connecting Municipal Anchor locations in Greater Madawaska

Dear Mr. Shiu,

As part of Cogeco Connexion's ongoing consultation with the Township of Greater Madawaska and your commitment to seeking to expand your broadband network in our area via government funding programs (in combination with your own investments), we confirm that Cogeco has identified key municipal anchor locations that you wish to connect as part of your funding request project for our area, namely:

Anchor Name	Address	City	Postal Code
<b>Township of Greater Madawaska Fire Station 1</b>	12470A Lanark Rd	Calabogie	K0J 1H0
<b>Greater Madawaska Town Hall</b>	19 Parnell St	Calabogie	K0J 1H0

Should Cogeco Connexion be successful in their bid attempt to connect the transport location in Ashdad, The Township of Greater Madawaska would fully support and strongly consider leveraging this new Cogeco fibre to connect the aforementioned municipal anchor institutions as a means of connecting our residents to a fast and reliable broadband service.

The Township of Greater Madawaska strongly encourages the governments of Canada and Ontario, including the CRTC, through funding programs such as the Universal Broadband Fund, the CRTC Broadband Fund and the Broadband and Cellular Infrastructure Program, to consider Cogeco Connexion's proposed projects for our area as a means for our community to fully engage with other municipalities, the rest of Canada, and the global economy.

We look forward to continuing to work in mutual collaboration with Cogeco Connexion.

Kind regards,



Brian Hunt  
Mayor

August 25, 2020

Hon. Maryam Monsef  
Minister for Women and Gender Equality  
And Rural Economic Development  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
[Maryam.Monsef@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Maryam.Monsef@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Minister Monsef:

On behalf of the residents of the Township of Greater Madawaska we are writing in support of the County of Renfrew to urge you and your government to support the Eastern Ontario Regional Network's (OEORN) Gigabyte project proposal.

Our ratepayers are unable to work from home and our children don't have access to on-line programming for their education. Rural broadband is a necessity in today's climate and EORN's Gigabyte project will fix this situation.

Please find attached Resolution 207-20, passed at the Regular Council meeting of August 17, 2020. Minister, we need your support to make the Gigabyte project a reality and fix the rural/urban connectivity divide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Hunt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Hunt

Mayor

[bhunt@greatermadawaska.com](mailto:bhunt@greatermadawaska.com)

February 22, 2021

Brian Hunt, Mayor  
Township of Greater Madawaska  
19 Parnell Street, PO Box 180  
Calabogie ON K0J 1H0  
bhunt@greatermadawaska.com

Universal Broadband Fund  
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario

**For inclusion with Bell application to ISED (March 15, 2021)**

**SUBJECT: Support for Bell's Application to the Universal Broadband Fund**

To whom it may concern,

We are pleased to support Bell's application to the Government of Canada's Universal Broadband Fund to bring high-speed Internet to our community as we believe the proposed project will have meaningful and lasting beneficial impacts on our community.

Greater Madawaska is located 45 minutes from the western parts of Ottawa and 65 minutes from the seat of Canada's government. Our community's population is largely over 50 years of age and increasingly made up of recently retired active folks who have an avid interest in their community.

Access to high-speed Internet is a priority for our community. As an underserved rural community, the lack of high-speed Internet access has prevented residents from taking advantage of the many benefits and opportunities afforded by the digital era. By making faster Internet speeds available in our community, the proposed project will allow households, businesses and community institutions to keep pace with changing technology and fully participate in the digital economy.

High-speed Internet access will improve:

- Economic opportunities (e.g., commercial development, small business development and/or entrepreneurship capacity improvement)
- Access to essential services (e.g., education, health care, public safety)
- Participation in the digital economy by underrepresented groups
- Connection to key social and economic public institutions (e.g., municipal, regional and other levels of government)
- Opportunities for young families to move to the municipality and work from home.

Bell's application to the UBF program, if approved, will provide more households, businesses and other organizations in our region with the broadband access they need to take advantage of digital opportunities, especially with respect to business, education, health and public safety.

Sincerely,



Brian Hunt  
Mayor

Posted on Monday, March 01, 2021

### *Long-Term Solution for Rural Connectivity Key to Economic Recovery*

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) has made a formal submission to the federal and provincial governments seeking support to deliver ultra-fast Gig internet to homes and businesses across the region. The submission has been sent to federal Minister Maryam Monsef, who has responsibility for rural economic development, and Ontario's Minister of Infrastructure Laurie Scott, who is tasked with rural broadband matters for the province.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the crisis in rural internet access. It has impacted businesses, education, healthcare and government services. The EORN Gig Project offers a comprehensive, long-term solution that ensures the region recovers from the pandemic, supports economic growth and improves quality of life.

“Rural areas are constantly falling behind as demand for broadband grows exponentially. It's time we fix it for good by building the Gig Project,” said EORN Chair J. Murray Jones, Warden of the County of Peterborough. “It's a lasting investment in our prosperity.”

The project would use a competitive process to choose a telecommunications partner and maximize coverage across the region. EORN seeks to fund the \$1.2 to \$1.6 billion project through a combination of funding, with \$200 million each from the federal and provincial governments and the remainder from the Canada Infrastructure Bank and the private sector.

Both the federal and provincial governments are investing in broadband. The federal government established the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) and the Government of Ontario created the Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) fund. Both funds focus on local projects. EORN is seeking support through a flexible use of these programs, or any other appropriate funding streams.

“We appreciate how committed both governments have been to improving broadband access,” said Debbie Robinson, Chair of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) and Warden of Renfrew County. “We all share the same goals, and we look forward to working together on a solution that is both comprehensive and cost-effective.”

“The Eastern Ontario Mayors’ Caucus is pleased to join the EOWC in supporting this project, which would serve more than one million residents in 113 municipalities,” said Diane Therrien, Chair of the EOMC and Mayor of the City of Peterborough. “Collectively, we will be well served by EORN’s comprehensive solution, rather than searching for our own private sector partners.”

Delivering Gig service generally involves a fibre optic or cable connection to the home or business. The EORN Gig Project leverages previous investments in infrastructure and services. This includes a fibre optic backbone and other infrastructure across the region built to handle the speed and capacity of the Gig project. EORN anticipates it could provide up to 95% of the region or more than 550,000 premises with Gig service by 2025-6 if fully funded.

An internet speed of 1 gigabit per second (1 Gbps or 1,000 Mbps) would provide seamless, reliable connectivity to support and meet growing demand over the long run. It also supports real-time data sharing needed for smart technologies.

It is about 20 times faster than the objectives set by the Canada Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). It declared 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload internet speeds as a minimum basic service level. Without additional public investment, it is unlikely that parts of eastern Ontario would reach these service levels before 2030.

“Given the pace of technological change, this service level is likely to be out of date by the time it arrives,” Jones added.

## **About EORN**

EORN, a non-profit created by the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus (EOWC), works with governments and community organizations to improve and leverage broadband access to fuel economic development and growth.

EORN is currently working on a \$213 million project, funded by public and private sector partners, to improve and expand cellular services across the region. Building on that project will begin during 2021.

From 2010 to 2014, EORN helped to improve broadband access to nearly 90 per cent of eastern Ontario through a \$175 million public-private partnership. The network was funded by federal, provincial and municipal governments and private

sector service providers. As a result of the project, 423,000 homes and businesses are now able to access services of up to 10 Mbps download. It also spurred more than \$100 million in additional private sector investment in the region, over and above their initial commitments.

### **About the EOWC**

Since its inception, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) has worked to support and advocate on behalf of the 750,000 property taxpayers across rural eastern Ontario. The EOWC covers an area of 45,000 square kilometres from Cobourg to the Quebec border, and includes 13 upper-tier and single-tier municipalities as well as 90 local municipalities. All members work together as a team, striving to ensure that conditions are in place to make Eastern Ontario the greatest place in the world to reside and do business.

### **About the EOMC**

The Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC) is made up of the Mayors of the 11 urban municipalities (separated, single-tier) of Eastern Ontario. The committee meets quarterly as a group with the municipal CAOs in attendance to discuss common issues relevant to municipalities in eastern Ontario.

For more information, contact:

Lisa Severson, Director of Communications

Tel: 613-213-8520,

[Email Lisa](#)

March 11, 2021

Honourable Maryam Monsef  
Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development  
180 Kent Street, Suite 1100  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1P 9B6

Honourable Laurie Scott  
Minister of Infrastructure  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2J3

Dear Ministers:

Re: EORN Gig Project

On behalf of my council colleagues and as Mayor of the Township of Greater Madawaska, I am writing to you both today to express our municipality's strong support for the EORN Gig Project. EORN's approach has proven itself to be very successful in improving broadband connectivity across eastern Ontario and we believe that it merits the careful consideration of both of your governments.

The EORN model offers a reliable and efficient way to fix the broadband needs in our municipality. Their proposal to bring up to 1 Gigabyte or 1,000 Megabits of speed to our residents and businesses will ensure that our needs are met today and long into the future. Our community needs this project and we urge both governments to come together and fully fund EORN's proposal. Our citizens and businesses have waited far too long for better high-speed services. Further delays are simply not acceptable.

Now is the time to act and we urge both of you to work together to launch the EORN project as soon as possible.

Yours truly,



Brian Hunt  
Mayor

cc. Cheryl Gallant, MP  
John Yakabuski, MPP

Posted on Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Local momentum continues to build for the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) Gig Project. One hundred and four (104) heads of Council from across eastern Ontario have signed on to a letter urging the federal and provincial governments to support the project, which aims to connect homes and businesses across the region with ultra-fast internet speeds.

The [letter to federal Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Maryam Monsef and Ontario's Infrastructure Minister Laurie Scott](#) comes following a meeting of nearly 60 wardens, mayors, and reeves. With strong support for the project among the group, they agreed to develop a letter and seek the support of their peers across the region. The letter is also being sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Premier Doug Ford.

The project would expand fibre to homes and businesses to deliver internet speeds up to 1 Gig (1,000 Megabits per second). EORN has been seeking federal and provincial support for the public-private partnership valued at up to \$1.6 billion. It would include investments by the federal and provincial governments, and the private sector, through EORN's proven model for expanding connectivity in underserved regions.

EORN is requesting \$200 million each from the federal and provincial governments. This is 5.7 per cent of the total funds the governments of Canada and Ontario have committed to broadband expansion. Given that recent analysis shows rural eastern Ontario accounts for about 30% of all under-served households in Ontario, the project offers tremendous value.

The EORN Gig Project offers a comprehensive solution that ensures the region can keep pace with rising demand for connectivity over the long-term. It is critical for the region's economic recovery from the pandemic and will support future economic growth and improved quality of life.

Quotes:

"In less than two weeks, 104 heads of Council in the region signed on to this letter of support. It clearly shows how essential this broadband project is to our communities. A regional delivery model like EORN has proven to be efficient and effective. Our

local governments have limited capacity to manage such projects on their own.”

- Debbie Robinson, Chair of the EOWC and Warden of Renfrew County

“The letter demonstrates that leaders across our region understand that the EORN Gig project would be truly game-changing for our citizens and businesses. We are thankful for their support and hope that our federal and provincial counterparts will listen to our appeal.”

- J. Murray Jones, Chair of EORN and Warden of Peterborough County

“The Gig Project would bring major benefits to our communities, including creating jobs, supporting our children to learn online and to improve access to healthcare services. The mayors of eastern Ontario’s cities and towns are pleased to support this project.”

- Diane Therrien, Chair of EOMC and Mayor of the City of Peterborough

#### About EORN

EORN, a non-profit created by the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus (EOWC), works with governments and community organizations to improve and leverage broadband access to fuel economic development and growth.

EORN is currently working on a \$300 million plus project, funded by public and private sector partners, to improve and expand cellular services across the region. Building on that project is beginning in 2021.

From 2010 to 2014, EORN helped to improve broadband access to nearly 90 per cent of eastern Ontario through a \$175 million public-private partnership. The network was funded by federal, provincial and municipal governments and private sector service providers. As a result of the project, 423,000 homes and businesses are now able to access services of up to 10 Mbps download. It also spurred more than \$100 million in additional private sector investment in the region, over and above their initial commitments.

#### About the EOWC

Since its inception, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) has worked to support and advocate on behalf of the 750,000 property taxpayers across rural eastern Ontario. The EOWC covers an area of 50,000 square kilometres from

Cobourg to the Quebec border, and includes 13 upper-tier and single-tier municipalities as well as 90 local municipalities. All members work together as a team, striving to ensure that conditions are in place to make Eastern Ontario the greatest place in the world to reside and do business.

#### About the EOMC

The Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC) is made up of the Mayors of the 10 urban municipalities (separated, single tier) of Eastern Ontario. The committee meets quarterly as a group with the municipal CAOs in attendance to discuss common issues relevant to municipalities in eastern Ontario.

For more information contact:

J. Murray Jones  
Chair, EORN  
Warden, Peterborough County  
Peterborough

[warden@ptbocounty.ca](mailto:warden@ptbocounty.ca)  
[eterborough.ca](http://eterborough.ca)

(705) 743-0380  
7777

Debbie Robinson  
Chair, EOWC  
Warden, Renfrew County

[warden@countyofrenfrew.ca](mailto:warden@countyofrenfrew.ca)

(613) 735-7288

Diane Therrien  
Chair, EOMC  
Mayor, City of

[DTherrien@p](mailto:DTherrien@p)

(705) 742-

Posted on Monday, July 19, 2021

Media Release

Elected officials across Eastern Ontario are hopeful that the Government of Ontario's new \$4-billion broadband program will help deliver Gig level speeds across the region.

The Province announced that the program, [Ontario Connects](#), will connect every home, community and area to high-speed internet by the end of 2025. The program will provide funding directly to Internet Service Providers, who will be selected to serve different geographic areas through a series of reverse-bid auction events.

The substantial investment is applauded by the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, along with the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus.

EORN, which has been leading improved connectivity across the rural region for more than a decade, has proposed a regional project to deliver broadband speeds of one gigabit (1G) across the region. This project would deliver ultra-fast internet to at least 95 per cent of the region, including some areas that have little service today. The organization offers its support to ensure that its residents get access to Gig-level speeds wherever possible. It is also encouraging the federal government to continue investing eastern Ontario.

EORN is currently delivering on a \$300 million Cell Gap Project to improve cell service coverage and capacity. The project is jointly funded by federal and provincial governments, and Rogers Communications.

"We appreciate that the federal and provincial governments heard EORN, the EOWC and the EOMC about the urgent need for broadband expansion in our region. Public investment is critical to expanding broadband in rural areas," said Debbie Robinson, Chair of the EOWC.

"We congratulate the Minister and the provincial government on this historic \$4 billion investment. EORN is prepared to lend our expertise to deliver our Gig Project in support of the Government's commitment to connect 100% of eastern Ontarians.

Our work has demonstrated that collaborative, publicly funded broadband projects can deliver results,” said J. Murray Jones, Chair of EORN.

“EORN’s analysis demonstrated the economic value of connecting our communities to future-proof, Gig-speed internet and we are hopeful that Ontario Connects and federal funding programs will ultimately help deliver this level of service to our communities,” said Diane Therrien, Chair of the EOMC.

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#### About the EOMC

The Eastern Ontario Mayors’ Caucus (EOMC) is made up of the mayors of the 11 urban municipalities (separated, single tier) of Eastern Ontario. The committee meets

quarterly as a group with the municipal CAOs in attendance to discuss common issues relevant to municipalities in eastern Ontario.

Learn more about the provincial program: <https://www.infrastructureontario.ca/Ontario-Connects/>

For more information contact:

J. Murray Jones

Debbie Robinson

Diane Therrien

Chair, EORN

Chair, EOWC

Chair, EOMC

Warden, Peterborough County  
Peterborough

Warden, Renfrew County

Mayor, City of

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[erborough.ca](mailto:warden@ptbocounty.ca)

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(705) 743-0380

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(705) 742-7777

August 16, 2021

## BROADBAND ANNOUNCEMENT

### Cogeco Expanding Broadband Service

#### ICON and ISED Awards Funding to Cogeco in Renfrew County

The Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) and Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) programs have announced that Cogeco Connexion has been awarded funding for a project that was submitted for Greater Madawaska and McNab/Braeside. As a result, Cogeco will be able to provide broadband service to approximately 1,209 unserved and underserved premises in the following areas:

- From Glasgow Station along County Rd 54 to Sand Point
- From Sand Point up along County Rd 1 to Bonnecherre River
- From Lundy's Corner along County Rd 508 through Burnstown, Springtown to Calabogie

For your information, the project total cost is approximately \$5.8M and ICON and ISED will contribute approximately \$3.9M. This project will be providing fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) to all homes except the homes in Calabogie where we will upgrade Cogeco's current 1-way system coax network to a 2-way system. Both of these solutions will deliver download speeds of up to 1Gbps as well as IPTV and VoIP services.

#### Next Steps:

Cogeco and the government programs are currently finalizing the statement of work with the expectation that this project will be completed by August 30, 2024. I will be in touch with your teams in the coming weeks to discuss the project, introduce the planning team and align on next steps i.e. permitting, accessing GIS information etc...

Mayors Hunt, Peckett and Bennett, on behalf of Cogeco, I would like to thank you and your teams for the support that was provided for our application(s) in your County. The County's support was also much appreciated. Local support was a critical requirement for the RFPs and as a result, Cogeco was able to prepare a thorough and, ultimately, successful bid. Again, we appreciate the support and look forward to working with your Townships and the County to complete this project and connect more of your residents with broadband service comparable to major urban centres in Ontario.

Best regards, MICHAEL

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Manager - Network Expansion & Extension ON cogeco.ca