



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No
2020-M-024

Memorandum to Council

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| Subject: | NEOnet and Broadband Presentation |
| Agenda Date: | February 20, 2020 |
| Attachments: | Materials from Broadband Presentation |

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS access to affordable and reliable broadband networks is an important part of everyday life and key to economic, education, social and health development;

AND WHEREAS communities outside urban centres face challenges in accessing internet service levels comparable to those in cities due to factors such as low population, distance and challenging terrain;

AND WHEREAS we believe future ICT infrastructure investment in our community would benefit from a holistic model that takes into account the connectivity needs of regional community partnerships rather than just one community;

AND WHEREAS this regional partnership should begin with a comprehensive needs analysis conducted by NEOnet, a publically funded non-profit development corporation using their expertise and Blue Sky Net expertise with the Geographic Information System mapping tool MAIMAP (Broadband and Associated Infrastructure Mapping Analysis Project);

AND WHEREAS from the analysis and public consultation NEOnet will conduct, it will be determined where internet gaps remain while also acknowledging what may be the best technology to fill these gaps based on access to the closest ICT infrastructure like fibre or other existing network infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS once we determine priority areas we propose establishing three classes of gaps:

- 1 – gaps in fibre/backbone infrastructure;
- 2 – gaps in last mile/local access to business and residents; and
- 3 – gaps in access in remote/very isolates areas;

AND WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial governments are proposing funding programs that will support the implantation of Broadband projects and will require this in-depth information;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Municipality of Temagami supports NEOnet leading a steering committee to which a representative from the Municipality of Temagami will be appointed;

AND FURTHER THAT NEOnet work with this committee during the period of analysis, funding application, and any subsequent RFP engagement.

INFORMATION

On February 6, 2020, a Broadband Conference was held in Temiskaming Shores. Attached to this report is the presentation given by Mayor O'Mara. In order to ensure we have a wide spread collaborative approach, especially where funding is concerned, it is important that we start working more with our neighbours on this and other files.

Respectfully Submitted
Craig Davidson
Treasurer/Administrator