



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.
2020-M-090

Memorandum to Council

Subject: Broadband Access Petition

Agenda Date: August 6, 2020

Attachments:

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission has established internet target speeds of 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload as well as the access to unlimited data;

AND WHEREAS there has been limited enhancements and growth of Broadband Internet initiatives throughout Northeastern Ontario due in part to past decisions to divest these assets by the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS projects considered by Internet Service Providers (ISP) are often deemed to be unsustainable or feasible due to the elevated cost of connecting to the fibre optic backhaul along the Highway 11 Corridor;

AND WHEREAS fair access for third-party internet access to existing ISP Infrastructure that may exist does not allow for innovation and enhanced service offerings that the existing large networks have not been able to provide;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Temagami hereby request the CRTC, or other appropriate bodies, review and assist in opening connectivity to aid in the networking of communities in Northeastern Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT this should be done at a cost reasonable when compared to other areas of the Province of Ontario and respectful of established Internet target speeds.

INFORMATION

As part of NEONet's advocacy role in increasing the availability of 'high speed' broadband internet, petitioning the CRTC through the Petition to the Governor in Council process is being considered as an approach that may provide for easier access at a more reasonable price. Typically, given the size of local installations, smaller ISPs are not able provide a reasonably priced product as the high cost of access are spread amongst few users. As well, access agreement for larger companies like comwave or teksavy, while required for the 'Bell Network' appear not to be required for the Ontera network which leads to a competitive imbalance.

Respectfully Submitted:
Craig Davidson
Treasurer/Administrator