

The Corporation of the
Municipality of Huron Shores



Office of the Mayor

02 October 2020
via email

Dear First Nation Chiefs, Municipal Mayors and Councils

**RE: *Improving Connectivity for Ontario Program
Update Number Three***

I am pleased to report on the progress of The Huron Shore & Manitoulin Island Community Owned Fibre Infrastructure (H&M COFI) Broadband project . In August, we submitted a Stage 1 grant request to the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) Program, and on 25 September 2020, our project was selected for the next stage. The Stage 2 submission is a more detailed report of the H&M COFI project, which will seek up to 25% or \$37.5M of the project's expected cost and is due 28 November 2020. If selected in Stage 2, the funds would allow us to commence in April 2021.

Last week, our H&M COFI partners, ROCK Networks Inc., and I presented to FedNor a request for funds required to complete the Stage 2 submission. It was well-received, and due to the ICON Program's late November deadline, we anticipate a response shortly. The documents will provide a Governance and Business Operating Structure and High-Level Engineering Design for H&M COFI. In addition to the ICON submission, the documents enable requests to federal programs that fund rural broadband projects. As federal funding can support up to 50% of the cost of H&M COFI, these documents are essential for our progress forward.

We have now entered a point of the project that will require a timely response from First Nations and Municipalities to address questions of an administrative nature that might be necessary for provincial and federal grant submissions. Therefore, we ask that you please provide the names, email addresses and phone numbers of the primary and alternate points of contact who are able to quickly respond to administrative queries. Please send the details by 8 October 2020 to Clerk/Administrator Tonelli at debbie@huronshores.ca. Phone 705-843-2033. It is much appreciated.

I look forward to working closely with you as we progress with the H&M COFI project and deliver a genuinely world-class network for the peoples of Huron Shore and Manitoulin Island.

Yours truly,

Georges Bilodeau
Mayor

Distribution List, next page

Distribution List

- MP Carol Hughes, carol.hughes@parl.gc.ca
- MPP Michael Mantha, mmantha@ndp.on.ca
- Shawn Heard, EACFDC, sheard@eastalgomacfdc.ca
- Suzanne Faubert-Astles, ENDM, Suzanne.Faubert-Astles@ontario.ca
- William Elliott, ELNOS, welliott@elnos.com

MUNICIPALITIES:

Algoma District

- Blind River, Town of - katie.scott@blindriver.ca
- Bruce Mines, Town of - dbrunke@bellnet.ca
- Elliot Lake, City of - nbray@city.elliottlake.on.ca
- Hilton Beach, Village of - peggy@hiltonbeach.com
- Hilton, Township of - admin@hiltontownship.ca
- Jocelyn, Township of - admin@jocelyn.ca
- Johnson, Township of - gmartin@johnsontownship.ca
- Laird, Township of - lairdtpw@soonet.ca
- Macdonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Add' l, Township of - lduguay@onlink.net
- Plummer Additional, Township of - vgoertzencooke@plummertownship.ca
- Spanish, Town of - pamlortie@townofspanish.com
- St. Joseph, Township of - clerkadmin@stjosephtownship.com
- Tarbutt & Tarbutt Additional, Township of - tarbutttownship@bellnet.ca
- The North Shore, Township of - mrose@townshipofthenorthshore.ca
- Thessalon, Town of - robert@thessalon.ca

Manitoulin District

- Assiginack, Township of - ahobbs@assiginack.ca
- Billings, Township of - kmcdonald@billingstwp.ca
- Burpee and Mills, Township of - pgilchrist787@gmail.com
- Central Manitoulin, Municipality of - centralm@amtelecom.net
- Gordon/Barrie Island, Municipality of - clerk@gordonbarrieisland.ca
- Gore Bay, Town of - scarr@gorebay.ca
- Northeastern Manitoulin and The Islands, Town of - hferguson@townofnemi.on.ca
- Tehkummah, Township of - clerk.administrator@tehkummah.ca

Sudbury District

- Baldwin, Township of - karin@baldwin.ca
- Espanola, Town of - ctownsend@espanola.ca
- Nairn and Hyman, Township of - nairncentre@personainternet.com
- Sables-Spanish Rivers, Township of - kasloss@sables-spanish.ca

First Nations (for Chief and Band Council)

- Aundek Omni Kaning (Sucker Creek) First Nation - corbierep@aokfn.com
- M'Chigeeng First Nation - chief@mchigeeng.ca
- Mississauga First Nation - directorofoperations@mississaugi.com
- Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation - southwind_elsa@sagamok.ca
- Serpent River First Nation - chief@serpentriverfn.com
- Sheguiandah First Nation Reception - reception@sheguiandahfn.ca
- Thessalon First Nation - mjwardell.tfn@vianet.ca
- Whitefish River First Nation – daves@whitefishriver.ca
- Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory kevinwassegijig@wiikwemkoong.ca
- Zhiibaahaasing First Nation bobbisue.kells.riberdy.zfn@gmail.com