

*The Corporation of the*  
**Municipality of Huron Shores**



Office of the Mayor

04 March 2021  
Via email

Dear First Nation Chiefs, Municipal Mayors and Councils:

***RE: H&M COFI Update #5***

Following my last update, the Municipality of Huron Shores proceeded with the necessary paperwork to incorporate a corporation for the H&M COFI (Huron Shores and Manitoulin Island Community Owned Fibre Infrastructure) Project and the incorporation papers were received on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. A founding board has been established to move the project to the next phase. The website, [www.hmcofi.com](http://www.hmcofi.com), is now up and running. We have taken the liberty of including the logos of those who have shown support for the project. Please advise if you do not wish your logo to be included. Up-to-date information about the project has been posted and we ask that you share the site with all the ratepayers and residents of your communities.

At this moment, H&M COFI and its team is in the process of completing the application for the Universal Broadband Fund Program through the Federal Government. Meanwhile, we are anxiously waiting for news regarding the ICON Stage 2 Program from the Provincial Government.

The partnership between the Municipality of Huron Shores and ROCK Networks Inc. and all of your letters of support have brought this project to a point where we can see it becoming a reality.

Presently, members of the Board are contacting Educational Institutions and presenting H&M COFI and the advantages to the educational system into the future. Additional letters of support are being solicited for H&M COFI.

The Board members and the Team are diligently seeking input and ideas for a logo and catch phrase for forthcoming marketing.

A collaboration agreement for all our partners is in the draft stages. This document will be forwarded to all to seek your participation. The document will elaborate on the membership aspects for all partners.

Discussions are ongoing concerning the final plan to finance H&M COFI. Many options have been put forward; from full Community ownership to private partnerships. The questions become: how much do the partners wish to partake in the eventual revenues to be generated; do the partners wish to invest in order to retain ownership; are we concerned if principal lenders take over and remove all revenues from the Region; how might we leverage a portion of the finances together? The financing decisions will be required in the near future considering that both ICON and UBF announcements are due in early April.

Future correspondence respecting the H&M COFI Project will come directly from the Corporation. I wish to thank all Municipalities and First Nations for listening to our presentations over the past few months and for supporting this massive undertaking. Together, we will obtain effective broadband for all members within our Communities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Georges Bilodeau".

Georges Bilodeau  
Mayor

## **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

- MP Carol Hughes - carol.hughes@parl.gc.ca
- MPP Michael Mantha - mmantha@ndp.on.ca
- Shawn Heard, EACFDC - sheard@eastalgotomacfdc.ca
- Suzanne Faubert-Astles, ENDM - Suzanne.Faubert-Astles@ontario.ca
- William Elliott, ELNOS - welliott@elnos.com
- Emilie Currie, HNCEA – emilie.currie@hncea.ca

## **MUNICIPALITIES (for Mayor and Council):**

### **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; djleask@sympatico.ca
- Jocelyn, Township of - admin@jocelyn.ca
- Johnson, Township of - gmartin@johnsontownship.ca
- Laird, Township of - lairdtwp@soonet.ca
- Macdonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Add' l, Township of - lduguay@onlink.net
- Plummer Additional, Township of - vgoertzencooke@plummertownship.ca; gmwilson@plummertownship.ca; keithhoback@plummertownship.ca
- Spanish, Town of - pamlortie@townofspanish.com
- St. Joseph, Township of - clerkadmin@stjoseph township.com
- Tarbutt & Tarbutt Additional, Township of – clerk@tarbutt.ca
- The North Shore, Township of – barbaramajor033@gmail.com; bgreen@townshipofthenorthshore.ca
- Thessalon, Town of - robert@thessalon.ca; b103rosenberg@gmail.com; Jordan.bird3@gmail.com

### **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 – dwilliamson@townofnemi.on.ca; hferguson@townofnemi.on.ca
- Tehkummah, Township of - clerk.administrator@tehkummah.ca; deputyclerk.administrator@tehkummah.ca
- Meldrum Bay (unincorporated) – catmyle@gmail.com

**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; awhalen@sables-spanish.ca

**FIRST NATIONS (for Chief and Band Council)**

- Aundek Omni Kaning (Sucker Creek) First Nation - corbierep@aokfn.com; corbierer@aokfn.com; bebamashk@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@serpentrivernfn.com
- Sheguiandah First Nation Reception - reception@sheguiandahfn.ca
- Thessalon First Nation - mjwardell.tfn@vianet.ca; lkeatley.tfn@vianet.ca
- Whitefish River First Nation – chief@whitefishriver.ca
- Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory – FirstTel Communications Corporation – cpeltier@firsttel.net
- Zhiibaahaasing First Nation – bobbisue@zhiibaahaasing.org