

P.O. Box 98, 4810 – 50 Ave., St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0 TEL: (780) 645-4417 FAX: (780) 645-5745 Toll Free: 866-390-3928 www.mcsnet.ca

December 19, 2014

Sheila Kitz, Chief Administrative Officer County of St. Paul No. 19 5015-49 Avenue St. Paul, AB TOA 3A4

Dear Ms. Kitz,

RE: Connecting Canadians Grant Program

MCSNet currently provides Rural High Speed Internet services in the County of St. Paul and over the years has been consistently expanding its services and connecting more rural residents. Today, MCSNet is proud to say it is now serving over 20,300 rural residents and business throughout Northern Alberta and Western Saskatchewan which includes a tower infrastructure of approximately 500 towers. Despite our extensive coverage throughout the County, there are still several areas with difficult terrain and/or lower population densities that could benefit with the support of the new Connecting Canadians Program.

In October 2014, Industry Canada launched a new funding program called "Connecting Canadians". The program provides funding of up to 50% of eligible costs to eligible and approved ISP's (Internet Service Provider) like ourselves, who are prepared to fund the additional 50% shortfall needed to cover project costs. As part of our grant application, we will propose to upgrade our existing infrastructure to the new state of the art broadband technology and more robust towers that will greatly enhance our existing services and coverage. MCSNet will also be installing fiber optic cable backbones to feed our core network towers in an effort to increase bandwidth capacity to meet ongoing and future demands. Wireless backhaul radios that generally feed these core towers, have a maximum throughput and fiber optic backbones will open the door to future demands.

MCSNet is therefore looking for a letter of support to submit with our proposal in enhancing services within the County. I have enclosed a sample letter of support (in Word format) you can use as is or modify as you see fit. The letter of support will no doubt play a key role in an effort for MCSNet to obtain funding under the Federal Government's Connecting Canadians program for the County's service area.

Please note that the Letter of Support will not and does not in any way put in place any

commitments or obligations on the part of the County to actively support MCSNet's interests in enhancing and improving high speed internet services in your County. However, MCSNet welcomes any involvement the County would like to undertake in the project.

Should MCSNet be successful with its grant application under the "Connecting Canadians" program, MCSNet will be funding all of the shortfall required for the project(s).

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Hoping we can count on a Letter of Support on behalf of the County, I remain

Yours truly

Leo VanBrabant -CEO encl.