

YOUR LETTERHEAD

Ms. Susan Hart, Director General
Connect to Innovate Program
ISED
20th Floor, 300 Slater Street,
Ottawa, Ontario,
K1A 0C8

DATE

RE: Support for MCSNet's Application of Connect to Innovate Program funding

Dear Ms. Hart:

The County of St. Paul would like to express its support for MCSNet and their application for the "Connect to Innovate Program". Through this program, MCSNet proposes to install new fiber backbones to our County's eligible communities in order to further enhance rural broadband connectivity.

MCSNet has played a vital role in providing reliable fixed wireless internet connectivity to our ratepayers and we have seen tremendous success in our partnership throughout the years. MCSNet has continued to provide our County with continuous growth in coverage and quality of services through their own investment and the aid of previous programs such as the "Connecting Canadians Program" and Alberta's own "Final Mile Rural Community Initiative". MCSNet utilized these programs, in addition to their own capital expenditures, to continuously upgrade and install new tower infrastructure and broadband equipment throughout our County.

We are seeing that using fiber backbones to replace limited capacity backhaul radios is the only solution that will ensure that our rural residents don't end up facing a lack of capacity for broadband services to some of our higher populated rural communities. These new fiber backbones are a critical step in meeting the rapid growth in bandwidth demands of our rural ISPs, anchor institutions, residents, and businesses.

The County of St. Paul therefore fully supports MCSNet's application to install necessary transit fiber backbone to the eligible community of "Spedden".

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

YOUR NAME

YOUR ENTITY NAME