

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
Rural Broadband Internet Services

County of St. Paul No. 19

The County of St. Paul No. 19 invites proposals from Internet Service Providers for the provision of expanding the Rural Broadband Internet Services within the municipality through the Government of Alberta's Final Mile Community Program.

The project involves assisting the municipality in making application for funding under the grant program and if successful, managing the entire project to completion.

Proposals clearly marked "RURAL BROADBAND SERVICES RFP" will be accepted until 4:30 on May 31, 2012 at the address indicated below.

For additional information or questions please contact Ms. Sheila Kitz, CAO, 780-645-3301 ext. 208.

County of St. Paul No. 19
5015 – 49 Ave.
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A4

The County of St. Paul No. 19 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all RFP's. The County of St. Paul No. 19 reserves the right to accept any RFP without stating reasons. The County of St. Paul No. 19 may consider any other factor besides price and capability to perform the work that it deems in its sole discretion to be relevant to its decision.

Schedule A

Terms of Reference

Rural Broadband Project – County of St. Paul No. 19

1.0 Background

- 1.1** The Government of Alberta has announced the Final Mile Rural Community Program consisting of a \$5 million initiative to fund projects that enable high-speed internet access to unserved locations in rural Alberta.
- 1.2** The County of St. Paul No. 19 (County) intends to make application for funding under this program, with the assistance of an internet service provider (ISP). Conditional to successful funding, the County of St. Paul No. 19 will proceed to complete the rural broadband program and internet connectivity for its ratepayers (“The Final Mile”). The County is in search of an ISP to undertake this project in partnership.
- 1.3** Through this Request for Proposal (RFP) process the County is inviting interested ISP’s to submit their proposals of interest to the County for consideration. The County intends to select one (1) provider based on the proposals received and proceed with the application and project if the grant application is successful.

2.0 Information Required in your Proposals:

- 2.1** Please provide information about your company’s qualifications and experience as an ISP.
- 2.2** Please provide current investment and interest respecting rural broadband service in the County Please include the number of customers, towers, etc. that you currently have within the County.
- 2.3** Proposals should demonstrate a commitment from the ISP to partner with the County in completing the application process and providing the necessary engineering information for both the application process and the actual project stage if funding is successful.
- 2.4** Please provide a commitment that your company will provide the following regarding the application process:
 - 2.4.1** Information identifying the areas/locations that the project intends to provide access to high-speed internet.

- 2.4.2 Number of households benefiting from the proposed new service.
- 2.4.3 An estimated cost of the proposed project and what cost percentage your company is will to contribute. The Provincial Government will fund up to 75% of the project.
- 2.5 Please provide a time schedule for the project if funding is successful in 2012.
- 2.6 Please indicate if your company will assist the County in completing the funding application. The County intends to select an ISP by its next regular meeting on June 12, 2012.
- 2.7 Proposals should demonstrate a commitment from the ISP to provide all project management and engineering required to complete a successful project.
- 2.8 Any other information you believe would be necessary to assist the County in selecting your company as the successful ISP.

3.0 Valuation Criteria:

The County of St. Paul No. 19 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals based on the criteria immediately below. The County further reserves the right to accept any proposal without stating reasons based on the following criteria. The County may consider any other factor besides the criteria that it deems in its sole discretion to be relevant to its decision.

<u>Component</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Number of New Households Project Will Serve	20.0%
Number of Households Currently Serving in the County	20.0%
Qualifications and Experience	20.0%
Financial Commitment	20.0%
Schedule	20.0%

SCHEDULE B

INFORMATION REQUESTED FORM

Rural Broadband Service Project County of St. Paul No. 19

Households

Approximate number of new households project will serve

Number of households currently serving within the County

Financial Commitment

Percentage of funding you are willing to commit to project

Schedule

Have you attached a proposed schedule as per section 2.5 of TOR