GPNetworks
GPN WIRELESS NETWORK SOLUTIONS LTD.

RE: FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPROVE INTERNET SERVICES IN RYCROFT.

Dear Mayor Diahann Potrebenko and Councilors,

GPNetworks would like to use this letter to propose a formal "partnership" with the Village of Rycroft to apply for the CRTC Broadband funding. This will empower us as a group to deploy superior fiber optic infrastructure to the Village.

The funding is available to partnerships, joint ventures, or consortiums consisting of government organizations, band councils, and Canadian corporations. The total funds available for this program are $750 million, over 5 years. GPNetworks has extensive experience in both navigating funding programs and the physical deployment of the actual infrastructure. This is a requirement for applying to this program.

Projects completed in 2019.

Project	Description
LaGlace	Development of the Hamlet (Fiber-optic to each home and business). Privately funded. Access project.
LaGlace to Valhalla	Connect-To-Innovate (CTI) project. Federal funded. Transport project.
Valhalla to Hythe	Connect-To-Innovate (CTI) project. Federal funded. Transport project.

Here are some guidelines related to the funding:

1. Canadian corporations of all sizes; provincial, territorial, and municipal government organizations; band councils or Indigenous governments; and any partnership, joint venture, or consortium composed of these eligible entities may apply for funding.
2. **At least one member of a partnership, joint venture, or consortium must have at least three years of experience in deploying and operating broadband infrastructure.**
3. **Must be eligible to operate as a Canadian carrier.**
4. Applicant that submits more than one application, the geographic areas proposed to be covered cannot overlap. Rycroft will be an Access project, but we can pursue Transport as part of the project.
5. Application cannot be contingent on any other factors; it will be assessed on its own merit. *Below are examples:*
    a. funding for another project proposal under the Broadband Fund,

   b. funding for another geographic area in a separate application under the Broadband Fund,
   c. funding from another program that has not been secured at the time of the application.
6. Applicants are encouraged to submit their most comprehensive proposal.
7. The CRTC has not imposed a limit with respect to the amount of funding that an applicant may request, but applicants must invest an amount in their project that is more than a nominal amount given the nature of the project.

We will collectively have to decide on an action plan. It will include guidelines on the application process, costing of project and information on the deployment phase. I will recommend for GPNetworks to work with the village administration in obtaining the funding and that once in place to commence with the project. The tentative timeline for construction should be set for Summer 2021.

Time is of essence as the applications for the second call are due April 30, 2020 at 5 pm PST.

Respectfully yours,

Kobus De Jager
CEO
780.296.4993
Thursday, March 26, 2020