

For Immediate Release

January 9, 2014

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus boosts economic development through new fibre broadband connections at business parks

(Pembroke, ON) – In a boost to the region's economic development, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) has awarded contracts to expand high-speed fibre internet connections at more than 50 business parks and clusters across rural Eastern Ontario.

Bell Aliant, Cogeco Cable Inc. and Utilities Kingston were awarded contracts to provide the new high-capacity, high-speed fibre internet connections. The project adds to the number of business parks and clusters that already have broadband service in the region.

The companies are building the new services off of their existing infrastructure, as well as off of the 5,500-kilometre, fibre-optic backbone that was built through the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN). A range of speeds and services will be available to serve the needs of business customers in these locations.

The business park project, valued at about \$8.9 million, is the latest phase of the EORN project, a \$170 million initiative to expand rural broadband throughout the region. Created by the Wardens' Caucus, the project is supported by federal, provincial, and municipal funding, and private sector investment.

"EORN is a key economic development tool for the region and we are pleased to extend the reach of the network to these important business hubs," said EOWC Chair Rick Philips.

"This investment by EORN in the six business communities in Renfrew County recognizes the continued importance of broadband as a necessary business tool and the commitment of our council to ensure our businesses and communities can enjoy the same access to markets, services and opportunities as other parts of our country," said County of Renfrew Warden Peter Emon.

"Thanks to prudent financial management and project oversight, we are able to deliver this added value to business parks as part of the EORN initiative," said EORN Chair David Burton. "We expect to complete construction of the business parks by 2014."

Renfrew County Council's appointed representative Petawawa Mayor, Bob Sweet echoed these comments by saying, "Gaining access to the Broadband Network is a great tool for local business and industry. Greater connectivity in the business parks means that the current businesses can enhance their day to day capabilities, and it creates another means of attraction for new businesses. It's a great day for business in the County."

EORN was established by the Wardens' Caucus to manage expansion of the rural broadband network in Eastern Ontario. It includes a 5,500-km fibre optic backbone and more than a dozen local access networks that will increase internet speeds and services to 95 per cent of the households in the region by 2014.

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For more information, contact:

Lisa Severson, Communications & Stakeholder Relations Officer, EORN
613-213-8520, lseverson@eorn.ca

FRONTENAC			
Municipality of South Frontenac	Sydenham	Sydenham Core Area	Bell Aliant
	Verona	Verona Core Hwy 38	Bell Aliant
City of Kingston	Kingston	Alcan Business Park	Utilities Kingston
	Kingston	Catararqui Estates Business Park	Utilities Kingston
	Kingston	St. Lawrence Business Park	Utilities Kingston
HALIBURTON			
Township of Algonquin Highlands	Algonquin Highlands	Stanhope Airport Area	Bell Aliant
HASTINGS			
Municipality of Centre Highlands	Madoc	Burnside St. Area	Bell Aliant
Municipality of Hastings Highlands	Hastings Highlands	Enterprise CR/Y Rd. Area	Bell Aliant
Municipality of Marmora and Lake	Marmora	Industry Lane Business Park	Bell Aliant
Municipality of Tweed	Tweed	Tweed Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
Township of Stirling –Rawdon	Stirling	West Front St. Business Park	Bell Aliant
Quinte West	Frankford	Frankford Industrial Park	Cogeco
	Trenton	North Murray Industrial Park	Cogeco
LANARK			
Tay Valley Township	Tay Valley	Christie Lake Rd.	Bell Aliant
	Tay Valley	Hwy 7 Commercial Area	Bell Aliant
Town of Perth	Perth	Perth Core and Business Area	Bell Aliant
Township of Drummond North Elmsley	Drummond/North Elmsely	Ewart Ave. Area	Bell Aliant
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON			
Loyalist Township	Loyalist Township	Loyalist East Business Park	Utilities Kingston
NORTHUMBERLAND			
Municipality of Brighton	Brighton	Brighton Industrial Park	Cogeco
Municipality of Trent Hills	Campbellford	Campbellford Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
	Trent Hills	Tanner Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
Township of Cramahe	Cramahe	Purdy Industrial Park Rd. Area	Cogeco
PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY			
Prince Edward County	Prince Edward	McFarland Development	Cogeco
RENFREW			
Town of Petawawa	Petawawa	Petawawa Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
Town of Renfrew	Renfrew	Renfrew Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
Township of Laurentian	Laurentian Valley	41/17 Cluster	Bell Aliant
Township of Madawaska Valley	Barry's Bay	Barry's Bay Business Park	Bell Aliant
Township of McNab/Braeside	McNab/Braeside	Pine Grove Business Park	Bell Aliant
Whitewater Region	Whitewater	Grants Settlement Road Area	Cogeco
	Whitewater	Greenwood Road Area	Cogeco
UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY			

Township of North Dundas	Winchester	Winchester Core	Bell Aliant
	Chesterville	Chesterville Core	Bell Aliant
Township of North Glengarry	Alexandria	Alexandria Industrial Blvd. Area	Bell Aliant
Township of South Dundas	Morrisburg	Morrisburg Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
Township of South Stormont	Long Sault	Long Sault East Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
	Ingleside	Ingleside Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
City of Cornwall	Cornwall	Cornwall Business Park	Bell Aliant
	Cornwall	Saunders Dr. Business Park	Bell Aliant
	Cornwall	Walrich Business Park	Bell Aliant
UNITED COUNTIES OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE			
Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley	Lyn	Elizabethtown-Kitley Business Park	Bell Aliant
Municipality of North Grenville	Kemptonville	Kemptonville Business Park	Bell Aliant
Township of Rideau Lakes	Rideau Lakes	Gallipeau Business Park	Bell Aliant
<i>Town of Gananoque</i>	Gananoque	Gananoque Core	Cogeco
UNITED COUNTIES OF PRESCOTT-RUSSELL			
Champlain Township	Vankleek Hill	VanKleek Industrial Park	Bell Aliant
City of Clarence-Rockland	Rockland	Rockland Business Park	Bell Aliant