

**Subject: Broadband Internet Connection**

**APPROVALS:**

**Annette Antoniak**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

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Chief Administrative Officer

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the Mayor be authorized to send a letter to:

- the Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada;
- the Provincial Minister of Service Alberta; and
- the Member of Parliament Fort McMurray-Cold Lake;
- with copies to industry partners and service providers,

requesting their support for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) initiative with respect to a national broadband strategy and urging the Federal Government to invest the required funding annually towards this initiative which is a matter of great importance within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

**Summary:**

At the November 13, 2018 Council meeting, Councillor J. Stroud served notice of her intent to bring forward the following resolution to the November 27, 2108 regular meeting for Council's consideration.

“THAT the Mayor be authorized to send a letter to:

- the Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada;
- the Provincial Minister of Service Alberta; and
- the Member of Parliament Fort McMurray-Cold Lake;
- With copies to industry partners and service providers,

requesting their support for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) initiative with respect to a national broadband strategy and urging the Federal Government to invest the required funding annually towards this initiative which is a matter of great importance with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.”

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

Council recognizes that for all Canadians, broadband internet connection at reasonable cost is now an essential part of business, education, social services and everyday life.

Council strongly support the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) initiative towards a national broadband strategy consisting of:

- Clear standards and timelines to achieve a new target for rural mobile access;
- Long-term, predictable funding for broadband and mobile Internet in rural, remote and northern communities; and
- Affordable and accessible Internet in rural communities matching that of big cities.

In accordance with Procedure Bylaw No. 18/020, the above noted motion is being submitted for Council's consideration.

**Strategic Priorities:**

Responsible Government  
Rural and Indigenous Communities and Partnerships