

Ministry of Infrastructure

4th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1
Telephone: 416-327-4412

Ministère de l'Infrastructure

777, rue Bay, 4^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2E1
Téléphone: 416-327-4412



Selwyn Hicks
Warden, Grey County
595 9th Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 3E3
warden@grey.ca

Dear Selwyn Hicks:

Re: Accelerated High-Speed Internet Program (AHSIP)

Thank you for your letter regarding the competitive process led by Infrastructure Ontario (IO). Please forgive the delay in responding to your concerns.

As you may be aware, Ontario has committed a historic investment totaling nearly \$4 billion towards high-speed internet infrastructure that will ensure every region in the province has access to reliable high-speed internet by the end of 2025.

Ontario has already committed over \$900 million to over 180 broadband, cellular and satellite projects to date, bringing reliable internet to 375,000 homes and businesses across the entire province. This includes a joint \$1.2 billion investment with the Government of Canada, announced in July, for 58 new projects that will bring high-speed internet access to up to 280,000 homes and businesses across Ontario.

The competitive process is nearly complete. While I am unable to provide details at this time, the preliminary results are encouraging and suggest that the program will have a significant impact on addressing areas of the province that remain underserved. Further, the competitive process was designed to incentivize fibre-based solutions that provide the necessary quality of service to meet Ontario's demand.

One of the goals of the competitive process was to find the right balance for sizing lots to ensure greater participation. Market engagement was conducted during the design and development of the competitive process, including with small and local internet service providers, to ensure a level playing field. The current process and associated program reflect the feedback received.

Through a combination of programs and initiatives, the government's overall plan will help to ensure 100 per cent of households and businesses throughout Ontario have access to high-speed internet by the end of 2025. No one will be left behind.

Please accept our best wishes and thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Ministry of Infrastructure Staff