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Sent: Friday, October 10, 2014 3:40 PM

To: Ron Eddy; Alan Spacek (alspacek@gmail.com); dcanfield@kenora.ca; 'Idollin@innisfil.ca'; Jim Pine; Hogan, Geoff

Cc: Kristen Oliver (admin@noma.on.ca); FONOM Office/ Bureau de FONOM; Cathie Brown; Nicholas Ruder; Heather Boyd; Cathie Brown; Nicholas Ruder

Subject: Protecting Rural Broadband - ROMA Update

Good afternoon everyone,

ROMA's letter writing campaign regarding Industry Canada's consultation on changes to 3500 spectrum band has been picking up momentum. Over 50 submissions have been sent to the electronic posting and AMO staff have been receiving calls from interested members and others. The federal NDP have called looking for further information and media have also been picking up the story.

Yesterday, the federal Minister of Industry, James Moore, released a statement regarding the consultation. His response was in regards to receipt of submissions from municipalities and others raising concerns with the reallocation of spectrum licenses from rural to urban for the intention of using this space for future cell phone use. Although the Minister attempts to reassure that rural internet services will not be lost, more clarification from Industry Canada is required to address ongoing concerns from small, rural and northern communities. I should note that Industry Canada has been invited and agreed to attend the next ROMA meeting on November 13 to provide their perspective to the Board. We will keep you updated as new details emerge.

We have posted an update to ROMA's website that includes the full statement from the Minister as well as our position to continue the letter writing campaign until concerns are addressed and clarity is provided.

<http://www.roma.on.ca/ROMA-Content/Rural-Internet/Rural-Internet-Access-Threatened.aspx>

Regards,

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