

From: Craig Hinchberger [<mailto:craigh@nftctelecom.com>]

Sent: February 23, 2021 3:19 PM

Subject: NFTC Telecom - UBF Fibre Proposal

Hello,

I'm reaching out on behalf of NFTC Telecom to request a letter of support for one of our upcoming Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) applications in your region.

As you may be aware, NFTC has been working hard to reduce broadband service gaps throughout rural Ontario and provide residents with greater educational and employment opportunities. To help achieve these objectives, we rely on support from government programs like the UBF.

If our proposal to the UBF is approved, we'll be pursuing large-scale fibre optic investments that will enable greater digital equality to disadvantaged populations while encouraging economic growth and stability. We would appreciate the support of your office in this application.

To help us achieve the fast-approaching submission deadlines, I've attached a sample support letter that you are free to use. I've also included instructions directly from the UBF below:

- *Letters of Support from the Community:* Descriptions of benefits should demonstrate the specific, tangible, and expected benefits a project is likely to provide within and around its targeted community(ies). This could include, but is not limited to, how the project will:
 - Impact the community's economic growth, social development, resiliency, employment, ongoing viability and/or capacity to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic and its economic effects.
 - Improve access to essential services, including tele-health, distance learning, social inclusiveness, and telework;
 - Facilitate participation in the digital economy by underrepresented groups, including women, persons who are 2SLGBTQ, First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, living in OLMCs, belonging to a visible minority, children, seniors, or persons with disabilities;
 - Connect institutions, including schools, libraries, hospitals, and other social services or community institutions, and/or enhance the services these institutions deliver;
 - Connect or facilitate the development of small businesses or entrepreneurship;
 - Connect or facilitate industrial applications; and
 - Contribute to governmental efforts such as Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy, Canada's Homelessness Strategy, Indigenous Community Development National Strategy, Women Entrepreneurship Strategy or the Action Plan for Official Languages.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Craig Hinchberger

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