



May 28, 2010

**EASTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL
BROADBAND NETWORK - UPDATE
“Faster – Further”**

Major Achievements

- Provincial and Federal contribution to the project is \$110 million dollars with the project estimated at \$170 million with contributed assets from the private sector pushing the value to over \$250 million.
- Over 60 new Points of Presence (PoP) – Deeper Fibre penetration through E. Ontario
- Rates for ISPs and consumers comparable to urban areas throughout Ontario
- The goal of EORN is to provide access to 10 Mbps of speed and capacity (about 10x more than currently exists) for 95% of the residents and businesses of Eastern Ontario.

- **The Project:** Three components:
 - A high-capacity (Gigabit Ethernet) fibre backhaul/transport ring;
 - Expanded Access capabilities;
 - Satellite for remote locations.

- **Timing:**
 - 3rd and 4th quarter of 2009 issuance and evaluation of backhaul/transport ring and satellite RFPS
 - Signing of the Contribution Agreement with the Federal and Provincial Governments
 - Finalization and announcement of successful proponents
 - Community Information Sessions to be held throughout the region after the announcements
 - 3rd and 4th quarter 2010 issuance and evaluation of access RFP
 - 2011 - construction of backhaul/transport ring, satellite deployment
 - 2011-12 - construction of access infrastructure, continued satellite deployment
 - 2012/13 - network fully operational

- **Interesting Facts:**

- EORN will cover E. Ontario, an area larger than 109 countries and almost the same size as Nova Scotia
- Nearly 300,000 people in the Region have no or poor access to the internet
- Approximately 160 new Points of Presence (PoPs) will push optical fibre deeper into the Region supporting the high speed, high capacity backbone that is critical to improving access throughout Eastern Ontario.
- Canada has fallen to 28th in the world in terms of broadband connectivity
- Globally access to high speed network is a priority, Australia is investing \$40 billion in its broadband network and Rwanda also has a broadband strategy in place and Japan will be offering 100 Mbps to the home.



For More Information Contact:

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