



# Minutes

---

## Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (RABIT) Task Force

**Meeting Date:** February 17, 2021

**Meeting Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Prepared by** Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

---

### A. Call to Order

---

Deputy Mayor Rob Potter called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. with Councillor Rob Sampson and Mayor Alar Soever present.

Staff present were Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt and Director of Operations Shawn Carey.

- **Task Force Member Attendance**

- **Additions to the Agenda**

None

**Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (RABIT) Task Force members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

### B. Staff Reports and Deputations

---

#### B.1 Deputations, if any

None

## C. Matters for Discussion

---

### C.1 Follow-up from Internet Service Provider Public Information Centre

- **Review of session**
  - Noted the Public Information Centre went very well, with enthusiasm demonstrated by participating Internet Service Providers
  - It was agreed that one-on-one next step and in-person interviews should be conducted shortly to ensure momentum continues
- **Next steps**
  - Email “Thank You” Notes to participating Internet Service Providers
  - Ensure Internet Service Provider presentations are loaded onto the Town’s website, and amend the RABIT Task Force page to be more appealing and contain more relevant detail about the initiatives
  - Issue a Press Release
  - National Broadband Internet Service Availability mapping included on webpage
  - Partner with CIRA to develop a “TBM Competition” that seeks 2,500-3,000 Internet Service Tests
  - Build relationship with CENG and upper levels of government
  - Request for Information issued which includes “one on one” with Internet Service Providers (Councillor Sampson to begin developing the draft RFI)
  - Story for The Blue Mountains Review or similar publication about the work of the Task Force (Deputy Mayor Potter to develop this)
  - Set-up time for CENG representative to attend a RABIT Task Force meeting
  - **Publicly held RABIT meeting**
    - To be held the week of April 15<sup>th</sup> or April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Action Items to be provided by Deputy Mayor Potter to Council for endorsement

### C.2 Eh!Tel Universal Broadband Fund Application

- [Funding information](#)
- **Application due by March 15, 2021**
  - Eh!Tel request to be sent to Council for consideration at the March 8, 2021 meeting

## D. Correspondence

---

None

## E. New and Unfinished Business

---

### E.1 Additions to the Agenda

### E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at Next Meeting

**F. Upcoming Meeting Dates**

---

March 3, 2021

**G. Adjournment**

---

Meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.