



# Minutes

---

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

**Meeting Date:** August 11, 2021  
**Meeting Time:** 11:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting  
**Prepared by** Kyra Dunlop, Administrative Assistant Committees of Council

---

### A. Call to Order

---

Deputy Mayor Potter called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. with Councillor Sampson and Mayor Soever present.

Town staff present were Director of Operations Shawn Carey and Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry.

Regrets were sent by Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt.

- **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

- **Review of Minutes (July 28, 2021)**

Minutes reviewed and deemed sufficient

### B. Staff Reports and Deputations

---

None

## **C. Matters for Discussion**

---

### **C.1 Final Task Force Report – Deputy Mayor Potter**

NOTE: Report to be provided to Council on August 23, 2021

Task Force members reviewed the draft Report being presented to Council August 23, 2021

- Recommendation to be developed by Task Force members for Council consideration
- Final report to be provided to Executive Assistant Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield for final formatting and submission to Clerks Office

### **C.2 Follow-up from August 9 and 10 Deputations to Council**

CIRA Deputation on August 9, 2021

BAI Communications Deputation on August 10, 2021

- Both deputations to Council were extremely informative and helped set the baseline for the report being presented August 23, 2021

### **C.3 Action Item Tracking**

- Installation guidelines for conduit in The Blue Mountains Road Allowance (“Variation Agreement”)
  - Local installers experiencing locate delays – to be discussed at AMO Delegation with Minister of Infrastructure
- Conduit Installation in Developments
- Eh!Tel and GBTel Inc. Universal Broadband Fund Proposals
- Bruce Street Technologies – Successful in ICON Grant
- R2B2 and The Town of The Blue Mountains
  - Consideration of hiring a student intern from the University of Guelph R2B2 program in Fall 2021 to assist in data mapping
  - Will bring funding request through 2022 budget related to RABIT activities
  - CAO Everitt has follow-up meeting with R2B2 representatives the week of September 13 and will be able to report on next steps after that point
- Telecommunications Infrastructure Plan, updates if any
  - Staff are preparing a public engagement plan to determine areas of need and potential strategic sites for new telecommunications tower facilities in the Town

## **D. Correspondence**

---

Task Force reviewed correspondence items D.1 and D.2.

Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

**D.1 Grant Street, CIRA**  
**Re: Response to July 28, 2021 Discussions**

**D.2 Ferdinand Staab, Fontur International**  
**Re: The Blue Mountains RABIT Program**

**E. New and Unfinished Business**

---

**E.1 Additions to the Agenda**

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

- Follow-up Direction from August 23 Task Force Report to Council
- Update with respect to the Telecommunications Infrastructure Plan

**F. Upcoming Meeting Dates**

---

August 25, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtually)

**G. Adjournment**

---

Meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.