

Muskoka Community Network

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PRESS RELEASE

MUSKOKA COMMUNITY NETWORK (MCN) RECEIVES FUNDING APPROVAL FOR THE REGIONAL BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT INITIATIVE.

November 15, 2006

MCN is pleased to announce that it has secured the funding from FedNor required to bring high speed internet access to unserved areas of Muskoka.

"MCN has known for a long time that FedNor is supportive of extending broadband connectivity to unserved areas. Now it is wonderful to see the Federal Government commit resources for expanded service. The success of this project is important to the economic and social development of our region. FedNor's commitment and support on this project will certainly help Muskoka become a better place to live and do business" says Rob McPhee, MCN's executive director.

Over the last year MCN has worked to identify regions in Muskoka where broadband connectivity is not available. Following that work, MCN issued a public request for proposal (RFP) to identify qualified vendors who could build the infrastructure to fill the broadband gaps. As a result of this RFP process, MCN chose Muskoka.com's proposal to build this infrastructure. Muskoka.com proposed the development of a new wholesale company that provides open access to other Internet Service Provider (ISP's). The new company, Core Broadband, is making a significant investment in this project and the balance will be funded by the FedNor contribution.

George Botko, President of Core Broadband commented, "We are very excited about this announcement and look forward to working with MCN and the existing Internet Service Providers in the area to extend service. Fednor's participation in the project will enable Core Broadband to build the infrastructure necessary for individual ISP's to reach the unserviced areas in Muskoka with affordable high-speed Internet services.

For more information regarding this release please contact

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