



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Corporate Services & Clerk

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Date to Council: June 8, 2021

Report Number: CS- 2021-10

Subject: Rural Broadband Advisory Committee Appointments

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report CS-2021-10 entitled “Rural Broadband Advisory Committee Appointments” **be received**;

And that the applications for the Rural Broadband Advisory Committee (Committee) be considered and applicants **be selected** for appointment to the Committee;

And further that the term of the Committee members’ appointment be for the remaining term of Council, ending November 14, 2022, or until such time as new members are appointed;

And furthermore that applicants **be notified** of Council’s decision and a by-law **be prepared** to formally appoint the new members to this Committee at the next meeting of Council.

Background

The need for broadband connectivity has been increasing in the last 20 years and became more important than ever in 2020. In recent years there have been improvements to internet service, however, there are still many areas of Tecumseh that are underserved. The Town’s Strategic Plan includes an endorsement to advocate for broadband connectivity in areas of the municipality that are currently underserved.

Report ICS-2021-02 entitled “Rural Broadband Advisory Committee” was presented at the April 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting (RCM) and approved establishing this Committee to provide recommendations, advice and information to Council on matters related to broadband connectivity. The Committee will work in collaboration with Council and Administration on

developing a plan to identify possible solutions and programs to support enhanced connectivity in the Town. The Committee's Terms of Reference, also approved under Report ICS-2021-02, further outline the mandate and objectives of the Committee.

The term of this Committee is for the remaining term of Council, consistent with all other Town Committees/Boards' term. Status of the Committee is to be reviewed at the outset of the next term of Council.

The Committee is to be comprised of the Mayor, two (2) Councillors (representing the urban and rural areas of the municipality) and four (4) at-large members (representing resident, business and the community sectors). Councillors Tania Jobin and Brian Houston were appointed to the Committee at the April 27, 2021 RCM.

The Committee will meet at least quarterly with meetings conducted virtually, when required.

Comments

In keeping with the Committee/Local Board Application and Appointment Policy No. 4 (Policy), a Notice of Call for Applications was published in the Essex Free Press on May 13, 2021. Additionally, the Notice was posted on the Town's website and linked to the Town's social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter.

The deadline for submitting applications was May 27, 2021.

The names of the qualified applicants received before the May 27, 2021 deadline are provided in the following Table:

Rural Broadband Advisory Committee Members

Current Members	2021 Applicants
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mayor Gary McNamara• Councillor Tania Jobin• Councillor Brian Houston	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Darrin Drouillard• Shuvo Bhattacharjee• Dan Grosu• Aldo DiNardo• Mark Shafer• Nicole Colenutt

A copy of each of the applications submitted have been made available for review to the Members of Council.

Consultations

Information & Communication Services

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Table 1: Link to Strategic Priorities

Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐ Social Media ☐ News Release ☐ Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Christina Hebert, BA (Hons), MA, Dipl. M.A.
Manager Committee & Community Services

Reviewed by:

Shaun Fuerth, BCS
Director Information & Communication Services

Reviewed by:

Laura Moy, Dipl. M.M., CMMIII HR Professional
Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None