

Report to Council

Report Title: Cargill Community Centre Fibre Optic Internet Lease Agreement

Prepared By: Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

Department: Recreation

Date: June 22, 2021

Report Number: REC2021-15 **File Number:** C11REC, R05CA, L04

Attachments: EH!Tel Networks Inc. Cargill Community Centre Lease Agreement

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2021-15 - Cargill Community Centre Fibre Optic Internet Lease Agreement, prepared by Mark Coleman, Director of Operations, and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward entering into a Lease Agreement with EH!Tel Network Inc.

Report:

Background:

In November of 2020, the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) organization announced it had awarded funding to expand broadband service to 5,200 households and businesses across Bruce County, including Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, Northern Bruce Peninsula, South Bruce, the Township of Huron-Kinloss, and the Town of South Bruce Peninsula.

SWIFT signed an agreement with EH!Tel Networks Inc. to support a hybrid project which will use a combination of both fibre and wireless technologies to expand broadband access within the municipalities of Arran Elderslie, Brockton, and South Bruce. SWIFT awarded \$4.7 million to deploy fibre cabling along 66 kilometers of underserved roadway and upgrade service on existing wireless towers to provide high-speed connectivity to more than 1,054 residents. Within the Municipality of Brockton, EH!Tel Networks will service Vesta, Ellengowan, Pinkerton, Eden Grove, Cargill, Cargill Siding, Dunkeld, Chepstow, Otter Creek, Pearl Lake, Maple Hill, and Malcom. The hope is that the upgraded and additional broadband services will be expected to be available by the end of 2021.

As part of this project, on April 13, 2021 the Municipality of Brockton entered into a Telecommunications Access Agreement with EH!Tel Network Inc. as per By-Law 2021-050, and a Lease Agreement for installing the HUB structure at our Municipal Brant Public Works Workshop (603 Bruce Road 19, R.R.#1 Elmwood) as per By-Law 2021-049.

EH!Tel also wishes to install a Point of Presence (POP) at the Cargill Community Centre (999 Greenock-Brant Townline, Cargill).

Analysis:

With regards to the EH!Tel Network Inc. Lease Agreement, Staff have met with the Project Team leaders and have approved a specific location at the Cargill Community Centre. EH!Tel Networks Inc. would have their own access point to the property and would not need anything from the Municipality. This location will not interfere with Municipal Operations. EH!Tel Networks is offering a lease payment of \$500 per annum for a ten (10) year term with a “right of renewal” for an additional ten (10) years if agreed upon, in writing, with the same terms and conditions. The agreement also includes free of charge internet service to the Cargill Community Centre.

They are proposing a 10X10 structure with a slightly larger concrete pad to accommodate an outside propane backup generator. Staff have given them directions on the access to the site. Municipal Staff are satisfied with this agreement and the location of the structure.

Staff are recommending that a By-Law be passed entering into the Lease Agreement.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | Yes |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Watson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer