

Report to Council

Report Title: FCM Launches Reliable Internet for Everyone Campaign
Prepared By: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer
Department: Administration
Date: November 5, 2018
Report Number: CAO2018-25 **File Number:** D02EC
Attachments: N/A

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves Report CAO2018-25 prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and supports participation in the FCM “Reliable Internet for Everyone Campaign”.

Report:

Background:

Broadband Internet Access in the rural areas of Brockton is a concern for local business operators and residents. This was further identified through the Business Retention & Expansion Project (BR & E). As Council is aware and stated by FCM “reliable Internet connection is not a luxury; it’s a necessity. Businesses need it to innovate, compete and grow. It is vital to public safety and public services—and to Canadians’ everyday quality of life.”

Reliable, fast internet makes the local business community competitive and keeps them thriving and located in Brockton.

Analysis:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) is launching a campaign “Reliable Internet for Everyone” a national broadband strategy. They are calling for clear targets for speed, long-term, predictable funding, and affordable access for the hardest-to-serve populations. They are seeking the support and promotion by municipalities across Canada. This is a larger problem than we can tackle alone. Participation would be consistent with the Action Plans outline in the BR & E.

I recommend participation in the advocacy program to support further development of our community. A link to the plan outlined by FCM can be found [here](#).

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? Yes

No budget implications at this time.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Chief Administrative Officer