



Update of what has been done on the issue of Internet connectivity by our team.

Hello,

Here are the latest updates on the actions taken by me and my team regarding the issue of Internet connectivity. All of you know that this issue is close to my heart and that connecting residents to the Internet is a priority for me. Over the past few months, I have initiated several meetings with various stakeholders in this issue.

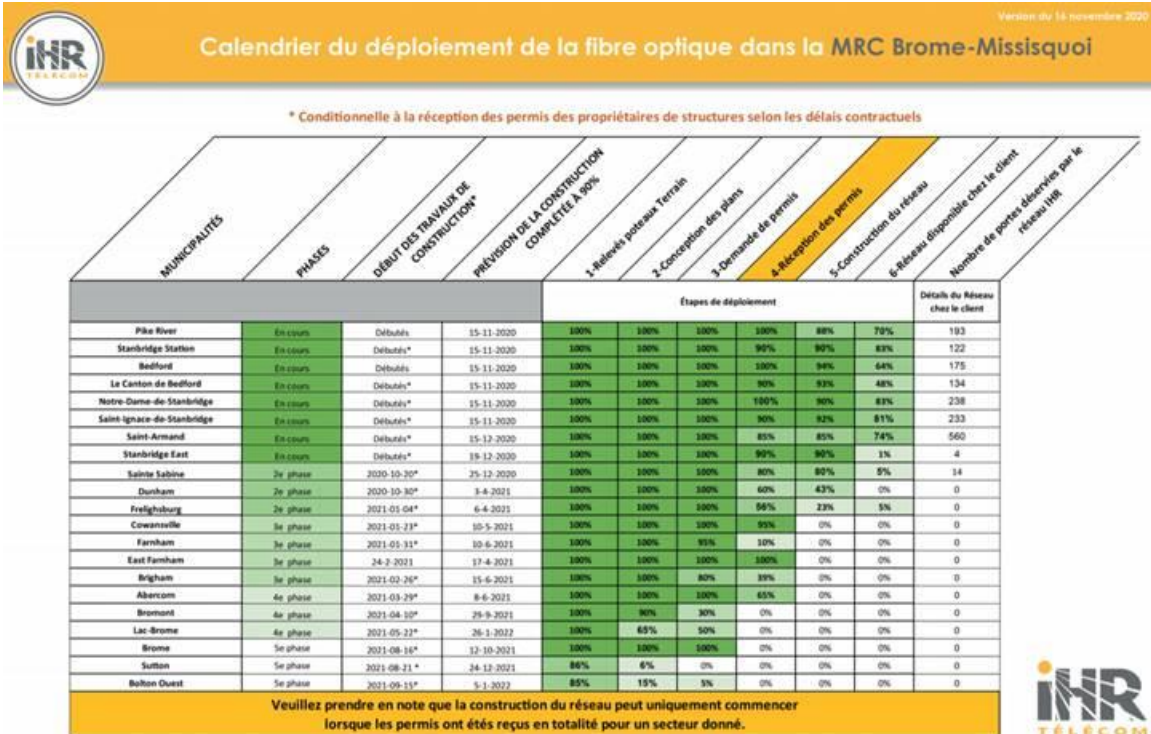
With the new Universal Broadband Fund (UBF), we want to make sure that telecommunications companies can submit projects to obtain federal subsidies so that all households in the Brome-Missisquoi riding are connected to high-speed Internet.

Meeting of the Issue Table for the Brome-Missisquoi connection project.

As you know, I organized a roundtable discussion in August with the stakeholders involved in the project in order to take stock of this issue. In collaboration with IHR Telecom, Bell and Hydro-Québec, solutions have been put in place to facilitate the deployment of fibre optic cable throughout the area. Since then, major work has begun in Bedford, Pike River, Saint-Armand, St-Ignace and Notre-Dame de Stanbridge, which will be completed in the coming weeks. But the work isn't over yet. Here are some updates from our November 24th meeting.

Since August, thanks to our concerted actions, the number of homes connected has more than doubled compared to what has been done since the very beginning of the project. More than 1,800 homes are now connected to the fibre optic network. IHR is cruising at full speed! There is renewed collaboration among stakeholders and the lines of communication have definitely improved. Other accelerated measures have been put in place jointly with Bell and Hydro-Québec to allow IHR to move forward quickly. The schedule is updated regularly to keep citizens informed of the progress of the work.

Here is the latest update to the schedule as of November 16, 2020:



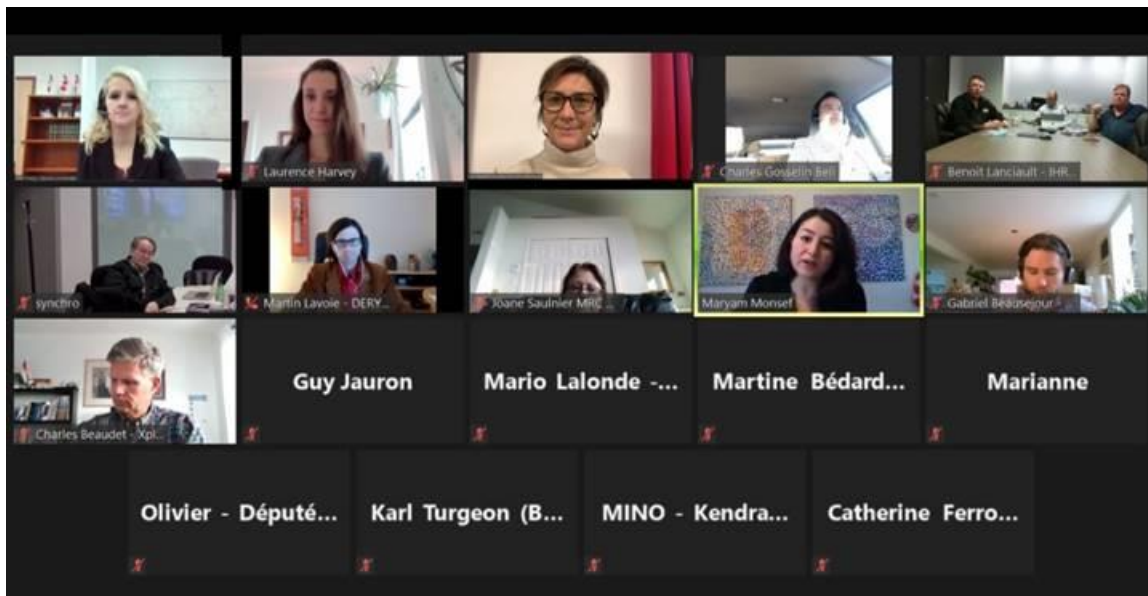
Here is the link to learn more about the timeline: <https://ihrtelecom.com/wp-content/uploads/Etat-du-deploiement-fibre-optique-IHR-2020-11-16.pdf>

For more information, I invite you to visit IHR Telecom's website at <https://ihrtelecom.com/fr/> or contact 1 888 346-0057.

Meeting with Minister Maryam Monsef and telecommunications companies to discuss the Broadband Fund

Internet connectivity is a priority for me. That’s why I invited my colleague Maryam Monsef, who is the minister responsible for this file at the federal level, to meet with our municipal leaders and telecommunications companies in Brome-Missisquoi. The Minister described the new Fund and its various components to our partners. She also explained to them how to submit their projects under the new accelerated process.

My team and I are committed to supporting our telecommunications companies in the riding in their dealings with the government. Of course, the government isn’t the one that actually connects homes to the network, but we continue to work hard to ensure that this gets done for everyone in the region.



Meeting with elected municipal officials

My team and I organized a meeting with the elected municipal officials of Brome-Missisquoi. The objective was to discuss the new Broadband Fund and the progress of the Internet connectivity file. We wanted to take a moment to answer their questions so that municipalities that want to submit a project to the new fund would be aware of the process and how they should apply to the program. We also took a look together at the areas of the riding that do not yet have high-speed Internet access and that could be eligible for the program if a project is submitted.

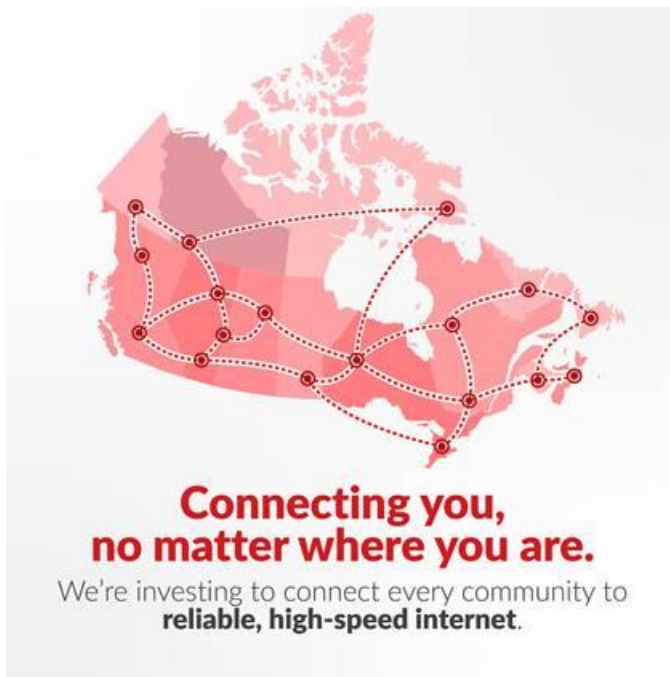
I thought it was important to discuss with them the different terms and conditions of the program, the eligibility criteria and the date by which they must submit a project.

Universal Broadband Fund

Our government announced the launch of the Universal Broadband Fund, to help connect communities, create jobs, and grow businesses across the country. This \$1.75 billion investment will allow us to connect 98% of Canadians to high-speed internet in the next few years, and get everyone connected by 2030. It will also help get people back to work and create good-paying jobs for Canadians across the country.

That the [Universal Broadband Fund \(UBF\)](#) is now open and that it has been enhanced to improve coverage of high-speed Internet and mobile connectivity services across Canada.

Please see this link for full details: <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/139.nsf/eng/00016.html>



Our team is here to help!

Don't hesitate to contact us for any questions or requests for information for this or other matters important to you.

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A team always ready to help you !



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*This photo was taken respecting the measures of social distancing.

Sincerely,

Lyne Bessette
MP for Brome-Missisquoi