

Next Steps for Internet and Cell Services

- Presentation to Inverness County Municipal Council
- From: Better Internet for Inverness County Team
- Dec 03, 2020



Better Internet for Inverness County Team

Seven citizens for almost a year: Organized, Effective, and Able to Draw Attention:

- Engage decision makers
- Create informative material & use powerful imagery for Facebook + Press + TV
- Engage and Connect Community





Discussion: Next steps on Internet and Cell

Keith and team are
already working on some
of these, “Next Steps”



We want to:

Highlight the
options

Check we align
with county



Internet Suggestions

1. Get fibre maps and check for communities and roads not covered.
2. Ask DevNS to cover the gaps. They have money.
3. If they won't fund, then apply to Universal Broadband Fund (due Jan 15).
4. Accelerate the project. Ask DevNS and UBF for money to do this as well.
5. Monitor Pictou, HRM, and Inverness County to ensure same price + same service offering.
6. Ensure Keith's meeting with DevNS and Bell:
 - covers any cell, internet, service, fibre, or tower issue.
 - happens regularly
 - is attended by county project owner, Melanie?, and consultant. Keith attends for major issues.
 - updates public

See notes below slides for details



Cell Suggestions

Important Note: Internet and cell service use mostly the same fibre network.

1. Bell will only build towers where return on investment is 3-5 years. Towers will connect to new and old fibre.
2. Coverage gaps solution: Build where Bell isn't, to compliment Bell. Need Bell's tower placement map.
3. Revenue for the county solution: Pick best locations and compete with Bell.
4. Can do some of both 2 and 3
3. Lease cell radio tower placement to Bell and competitors.
4. Third-party can manage towers and leasing.
5. County has tender on wireless.

See notes below slides for details

StarLink: A Second Option

- StarLink: Rural high-speed, satellite internet probably in 2021.
- Allan MacMaster and Keith are talking to them.
- Possibility: Use UBF funds to buy satellite dishes for people in 2021.
- Why: Service in 2021 and Bell gets a real competitor.
- If county involved, almost no cost.

See notes below slides for details





Hire a Consultant

- These projects have complex fiscal, technological, project management, regulatory and legal aspects.
- Bell is superb at this and all can seem well when it isn't.
- A rented expert can help you with this.
- If you are not building or outsourcing anything, the hours will be low.
- Bill Murphy can provide you with many people who could do this.
- <https://www.i-valley.ca/> can also do this.

See notes below slides for details

Next Steps

- County to decide their follow-up plan.
- County to tell us if our suggestions & their plans are aligned.
- Please tell constituents the plan.
- We are open to helping.

A dramatic sky with sunbeams breaking through clouds over a body of water. The sunbeams are prominent, radiating from the center of the frame. The clouds are white and fluffy, contrasting with the blue sky. The water is dark and calm, reflecting the light from the sky.

Thank you...Drive'er!

Christy's Look Out

INTERNET FACTS IN INVERNESS COUNTY

CURRENT HIGH SPEED INTERNET PACKAGES IN NS

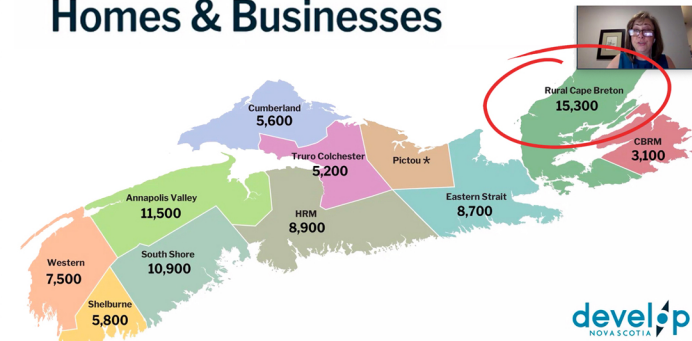
eastlink HALIFAX	FIBRE 100 100 Mbps Download speed 100 Mbps Upload speed	\$74.95 month* *First 2 years. After Promo = \$95.95/Month (www.eastlink.ca)
Bell Aliant HALIFAX	FIBRE 100 100 Mbps Download speed 100 Mbps Upload speed	\$74.95 month* *First 2 years. After Promo = \$104.95/Month (www.aliant.bell.ca)
Bell Aliant INVERNESS COUNTY	"High-Speed Ultra" Up to 7 Mbps Download speed Up to .9 Mbps Upload speed	\$89.95 month* *FIRST YEAR ONLY After Promo = \$104.95/Month



The **MINIMUM** target speed for all Canadians is **50 Mbps** download and **10 Mbps** upload.
INVERNESS COUNTY speeds average **LESS** than **5 Mbps** download and **.5 Mbps** upload.

INTERNET SERVICES IN NOVA SCOTIA

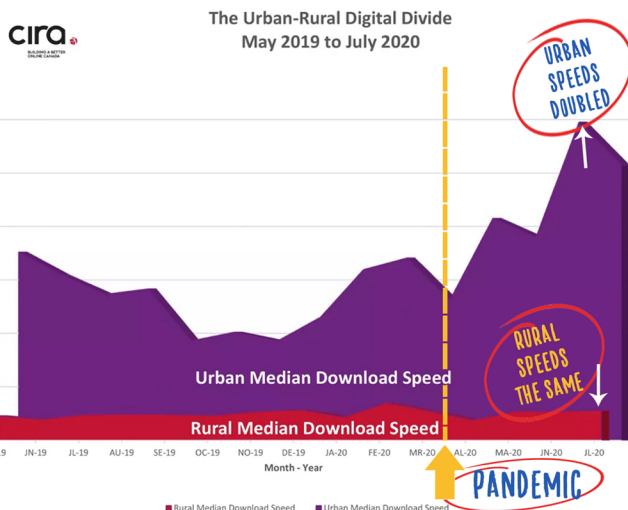
Underserved and Unserved Homes & Businesses



Rural Cape Breton has the **HIGHEST** number of under serviced homes and businesses in Nova Scotia. This is **1/3 MORE** than the number of any other area in Nova Scotia.

JOIN US: @BetterInternetForInvernessCounty

Rural Internet Speeds in Canada are **10X** worse than Urban Speeds...
..and the divide only grew during the pandemic!



Network Type	Date Time	Ping ms	Download Mbps	Upload Mbps
Wi-Fi	21-08-2020 08:51	9999	2.24	0.00
Wi-Fi	19-08-2020 21:53	136	2.46	0.00
Wi-Fi	19-08-2020 10:27	9999	0.00	0.00
Wi-Fi	19-08-2020 09:20	592	1.70	0.66
Wi-Fi	18-08-2020 22:57	9999	0.00	0.00
Wi-Fi	18-08-2020 16:33	48	1.72	0.00
Wi-Fi	17-08-2020 20:35	205	0.69	0.00

In **HALIFAX**, the average Bell Aliant customer pays **\$0.75/Mbps**

In **INVERNESS COUNTY**, the average Bell Aliant customer pays



\$12.85/Mbps

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