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April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Mr. Chris Seidl  
Executive Director - Telecommunications  
Canadian Radio-television and  
Telecommunications Commission  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N2

**Re: City of Greater Sudbury's support for Blue Sky Net's application to the CRTC's Broadband Fund**

Dear Mr. Seidl,

As the Mayor of the City of Greater Sudbury I am writing to express our support for the application by Blue Sky Net to the CRTC Broadband Fund to enhance broadband connectivity in Greater Sudbury and across Northern Ontario to address longstanding issues in some parts of our region including poor to no internet coverage.

The City of Greater Sudbury has lead a group of local organizations, including education, health care, industry, etc., to align the needs of these organizations with broadband survey data collected by Blue Sky Net and CRTC information on broadband coverage in our area. Through this effort the City and these organizations have contributed to the Blue Sky Net's application. As an organization, the City of Greater Sudbury is advancing several projects aimed at digitizing our processes and realizing our vision of providing great citizen services, powered by technology and data, anytime, anywhere.

The findings of the survey mentioned above indicated that 13% of the land parcels in our community have internet speeds less than 5MBps, which is well below the CRTC standard of 50/10 Mbps. As an example of the impact of having below standard internet speeds, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the City of Greater Sudbury has a declared a state of emergency and the lack of good internet has proven to be a real barrier to enabling work from home for its citizens, which is needed to both support Public Health's 'stay at home' recommendations and to support our economy. It creates issues for educational institutions, telemedicine opportunities and public health communications and resourcing in an event like we are currently navigating.

Generally for a project of this importance, Council would provide a Resolution of Support, however due to a focus on the immediate needs of the community during this current state of emergency, I as Mayor, am sending this letter of support for Blue Sky Net's application to the CRTC's Broadband Fund.

Should you have any questions regarding the statements I have made, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of Blue Sky Net's application.

Sincerely,

Brian Bigger  
Mayor