



- 1,300 plus customers; and,
- Takes pride in customer service.

NNC currently has 36 towers, as well as a number of small access points. A map showing tower locations was provided. From the start, speeds offered were up to 1.5 Mbps and over eight years, has increased in some areas to speeds of up to 5 Mbps.

Network upgrades are necessary to bring all current and future customers up to the minimum 5 Mbps and costs to do this will be significant. If the application is approved, up to 50% funding towards capital costs for these upgrades could be received. This would enable NNC to provide service to customers currently without service, as well as make improvements for existing customers, more quickly and efficiently. Mr. MacDonald noted that NNC has not received any government funding in the past.

**Seaside Wireless Communications - Brenda Stewart, Manager Regulatory Affairs and Jared Peach, Connection Analyst**

Representing Seaside Wireless Communications were Brenda Stewart and Jared Peach. Seaside Wireless Communications is seeking Council support for an application to the Connecting Canadians Program through the federal government.

A brief company history was provided including:

- Awarded Broadband for rural NS and Cape Breton;
- Serving customers across 30,000+ square km;
- Provides service to 99.9% of rural population;
- 309 towers across 10 municipalities;
- 1442 customers in Colchester County; and,
- Offers a Fire Department Support Program which includes free WIFI where available and annual cash draws for fire departments, to those who apply, equaling \$40,000 distributed over 10 municipalities.

Some of the challenges Seaside is currently faced with are the need for greater internet speeds, redundancy, frequency interference and installation locations. If the application for the Connecting Canadian Program is approved, it will help to provide more powerful radio equipment, greater upload/download capabilities, redundancy for 75% of networks, and will provide residents in rural Colchester with the level of service now offered in urban communities.

Seaside currently has the support of the Province of Nova Scotia, 11 municipalities across the province, and is now seeking the support of

Colchester County.

North Nova Cable Limited and Seaside Wireless Communications were advised that each company would be notified the following day of any decisions of Council.

Discussion was held regarding the merits of support for each company and their applications. Concerns were expressed about promoting private companies, with a suggestion that support could be offered by individual Councillors but not as a Municipality. It was noted however, that part of the requirement of the application is to have municipal support by way of letter or resolution.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the Municipality provide a letter of support for Dan and David MacDonald, North Nova Cable Limited, for their application to the federal government for the Connecting Canadians Program.”

Motion **Defeated.**  
*(Mayor Taylor, Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Stewart, Cooper, MacKenzie and Parker opposed)*

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the Municipality provide a letter of support to both North Nova Cable Limited and Seaside Wireless Communications, for their applications to the federal government for the Connecting Canadians Program.”

Motion Carried.  
*(Councillors Stewart, Cavanaugh and Gregory opposed)*

The CAO advised that if it was the wish of individual Councillors to write letters of support, it would not be a conflict to do so.

## **RECESS**

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting go into closed session at 8:15 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

*At this point, 9:15 pm, Councillor MacInnes excused himself from the meeting due to another scheduling commitment.*

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:40 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Personnel Matter**

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That an invitation be extended to Rose Dill, Former Accounts Payable and Payroll Clerk, to attend a future Council meeting to be thanked for her 31 years of service.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:41 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno  
Recording Secretary