

# Memorandum

Date: June 18, 2019

To: Members of Council

From: Erin Britnell, Manager, Information Technology, Corporate Services (I)

Subject: Public Sector Network Update

The Town of Caledon is one of four partners in the Public Sector Network (PSN) for the Region of Peel. The following is the annual update to Council as required within the Partnership Agreement.

## **What is the PSN?**

The PSN is a fibre optic network throughout the Region of Peel. It is a collaborative effort of the four municipalities within the Region. The purpose of the PSN is to provide an instant flow of data communications between municipal facilities across Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon, as well offers connectivity for other public sector agencies operating within Peel.

The PSN does not provide connectivity directly to residents and businesses. In cases where there is surplus PSN fibre it could be made available to private sector carriers through an agreement. This agreement would provide an equal value (a swap of fibre for example) back to the PSN from the carrier.

Each municipality is responsible for the costs of expansion to facilities within their own jurisdiction.

## **History of the PSN in Caledon**

The PSN was founded in 1996, and the Town of Caledon joined the partnership in 2001. Currently, the PSN connects the following Town sites to Town Hall:

- Albion Bolton United Community Centre
- Animal Shelter
- Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness
- Caledon East Community Centre
- Caledon East Library
- Fire Headquarters
- Fire Station 302 (Bolton)
- Fire Station 302 - New location (Bolton)
- Fire Station 303 (Caledon East)
- Fire Station 307 (Valleywood)
- Mayfield Recreation Centre
- OPP (Innis Lake Road)
- Southfields Community Centre (coming Fall 2019)
- Valleywood Library
- Yard 1

- Yard 2
- Yard 3

### Current Status of the PSN

The PSN currently consists of 812 kilometers of fibre connecting 939 partner (owners of the PSN network) and subscriber (broader public sector organizations that pay to gain access to the network) facilities'. These are divided as follows:

Partners (and subsidiaries):

Partner	Number of Facilities Connected
Region of Peel	181
Peel Regional Police	22
City of Mississauga	335
City of Brampton	367
Town of Caledon	17

Subscribers:

Subscriber	Number of Facilities Connected
Sheridan College	2
William Osler Health Centre	3
Trillium Health Centre	12

PSN provides highly reliable service. During 2018, there were ten incidents where fibre was damaged resulting from traffic incidents affecting overhead cable, damage caused by contractors digging (despite locate services) or even animals chewing through the fibre. Incidents are generally repaired within a few hours. However, since most critical facilities have redundant connections, in most cases no actual loss of service was experienced.

### General PSN Activities in 2018

- 49 kilometers of new fibre optic cables were installed.
- 72 partner connections were added- 9 staffed sites and 63 "nodes"
- Designing and building alternative routes for key sites along the planned Hurontario LRT corridor
- Working with Metrolinx, affected utilities and Alectra on projects requiring the relocation of existing fibre

### Caledon-specific PSN Activity

- In 2019, two additional facilities will be added to the PSN Network; Fire Station 302 in Bolton and Southfields Community Centre.
- Planning is currently taking place to add fibre in Bolton to create redundancy (a backup loop) in the east part of Caledon's network to be added in 2020-2021 (to align with existing construction plans by the Region) in collaboration with the Region of Peel and Hydro One. This will ensure that if one line goes down, there will not be a loss in service.

### Overall PSN Financial Summary

The PSN Steering Committee consists of representatives from the Region of Peel, and the three area municipalities. The Committee provides oversight for the expenditures and revenues of the overall network.

The overall PSN operating budget, which is substantially funded from subscriber's revenues, is for the general maintenance and operations of the Network. The individual municipalities are asked to provide funding contributions as required to offset the subscriber revenues.

In general, the PSN financials remain stable, despite higher than anticipated costs for fibre locate services which led to higher than anticipated 2018 operating expenses. The impact of this was a smaller than budgeted contribution to reserve. The Reserve Fund (which is maintained by the Region) balance at the end of 2018 stood at \$716K and is anticipated to reach \$786K by the end of 2019. Appendix one and two provide summaries of the 2018 PSN Financial Statements and 2019 PSN Operating Budget.

This budget was presented and approved by the Region of Peel on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

### **Town-Specific Financial Impact**

The 2019 Overall PSN Proposed Budget has no operating impact for the Town due to the ability to fund operations through subscriber revenues.

Expansion of the network to new facilities within the Town is funded through the Town's regular capital budget process. Currently, there is one open 2018 capital project #18-125 IT-Public Sector Network Extension for \$200,000 to complete the ongoing expansions as listed above. Any additional capital requirements for future builds or maintenance of existing infrastructure would come to Council for approval during budget discussions.

### **Conclusion**

PSN remains an example of the benefits derived through co-operation and partnership among municipalities and with the broader public sector in Peel.

### **Appendices**

- I- 2018 PSN Financial Statements
- II- 2019 PSN Operating Budget