



**Special Joint Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 –5:00 p.m.**

Virtual Electronic Format

<https://youtube.com/live/vsAholzp3AQ?feature=share>

AGENDA

Page

Call to Order

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Items of Business

2 - 21

- a) **Presentation by The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)** on the EORN Cell Gap Coverage project.

[Presentation by The Eastern Ontario Regional Network \(EORN\) on the EORN Cell Gap Coverage project.](#)

By-Laws – General By-laws and Confirmatory By-law

- a) First and Second Reading

Resolved That leave be given the mover to introduce by-law a) that has been circulated to all Members of County Council and that by-law a) be read a first and second time.

- b) Third Reading

Resolved That by-law a) be read a third time, signed, sealed and finally passed.

By-Laws

22 - 23

To confirm all actions and proceedings of County Council on May 14, 2025

[Proposed By-law No. 2025-020]

[To confirm all actions and proceedings of County Council on May 14, 2025](#)

Adjournment

The County of Frontenac EORN Cell Gap Project Update

May 14, 2025



EORN

EASTERN ONTARIO
REGIONAL NETWORK

Agenda

- Cell Gap Project update
- EORN Strategic Plan 2024-2028
- Questions

Cell Gap Project Update



EORN

EASTERN ONTARIO
REGIONAL NETWORK

EORN Cell Gap Project Goals



Achieve **99% coverage** in the eastern Ontario region where people live, work and travel on major roadways so that they can make and receive cell phone calls.



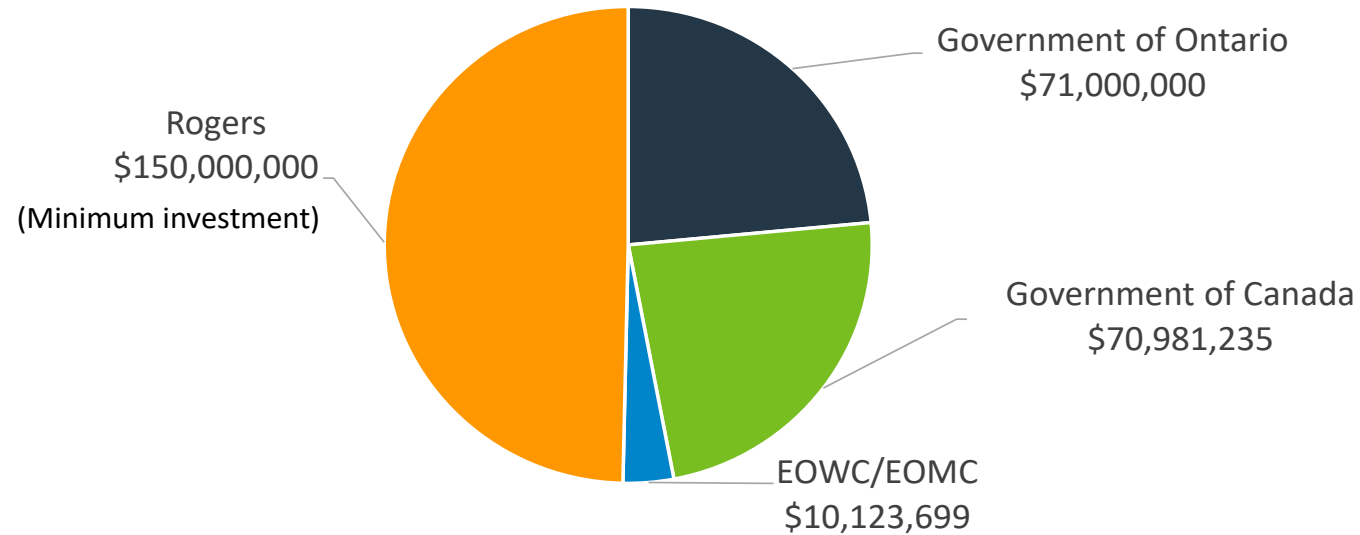
Achieve **95% coverage** in the eastern Ontario region where people live, work and travel on major roadways with standard definition service level which can support email, web browsing and social media services.



Achieve **85% coverage** in the eastern Ontario region where people live, work and travel on major roadways with high-definition service level which can support video conferencing, movie streaming and other more data intensive applications.

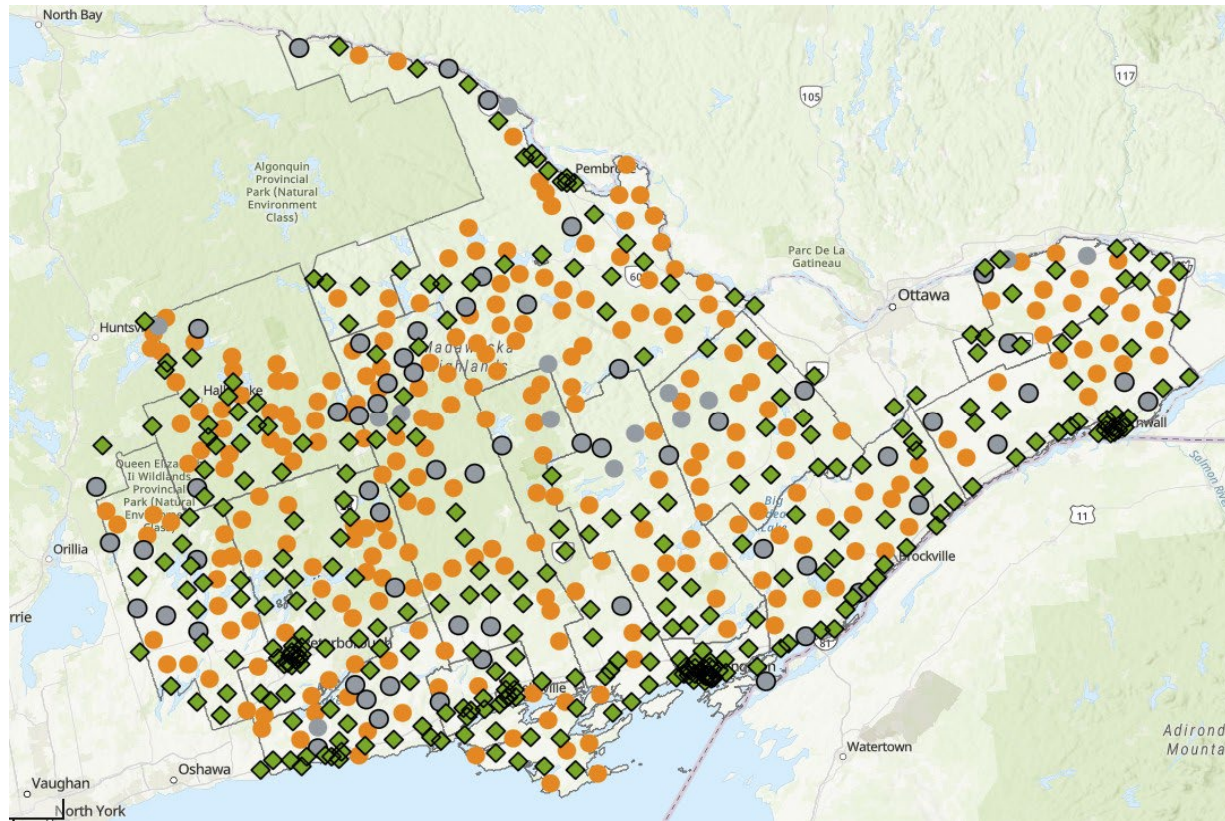
Financial – Funding Details

Over \$300 million dollar investment in eastern Ontario before in-kind contributions and community benefits.



EORN Cell Gap Project

Project investment in the region will result in an average of 30:1 return on investment for EOWC.



Type	Total project	% In-service
New builds	258	51%
Uplifts	311	100%
Co-locations	74	87%

Many of the sites in service may support home internet. Residents should check at their local Rogers outlet.

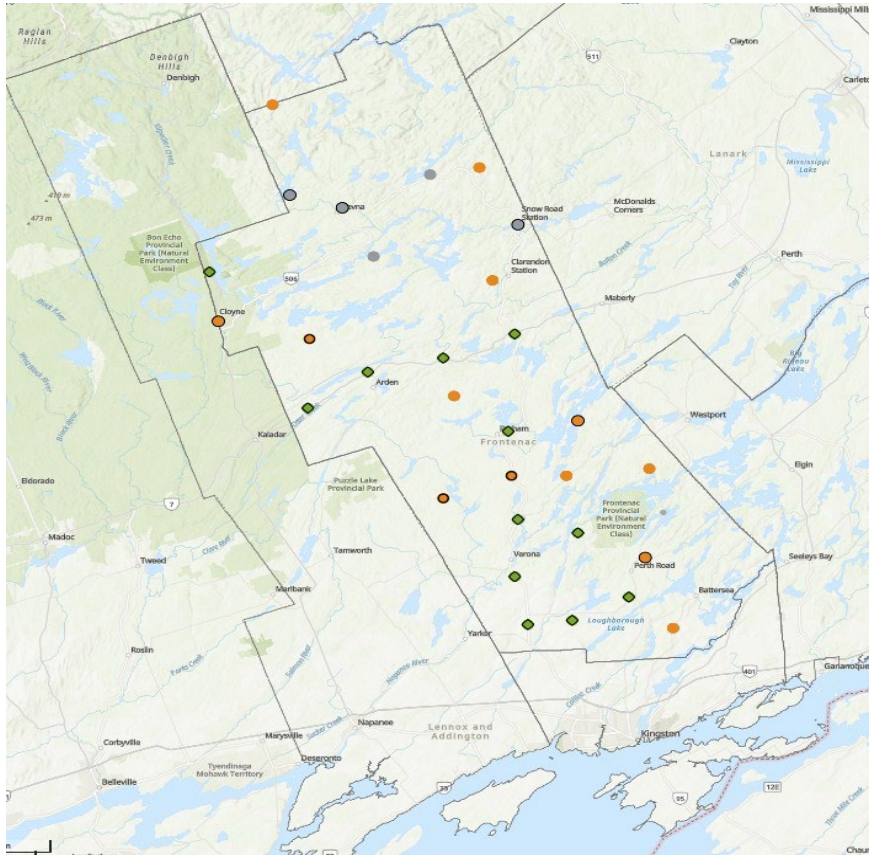
79% of project completed.

- New towers planned
- New towers in-service
- Uplifts completed
- Co-locations planned
- Co-locations in service

Subject to change April 15, 2025

Frontenac County

Frontenac County has invested \$389,750 with \$17 million of infrastructure being made in the county. 44:1 return on investment.



Type	Total project	% In-service
New builds	13	46%
Upgrades	13	100%
Co-locations	4	67%

All upgrades are completed. Four of six co-locations are completed, and six of 13 new sites are in service.

72% of Frontenac sites completed.

- New towers planned
- New towers in-service
- Uplifts completed
- Co-locations planned
- Co-locations in service

Subject to change April 15, 2025

EORN Cell Gap Project Construction Plan

	New builds	Co-locations
Previous years in-service	77	54
Year 4 in-service	44	13
*Current total in-service	121	64
Year 5 planned	113	8
Year 6 planned	24	2
Total project	258	74
% of total in-service	47%	86%

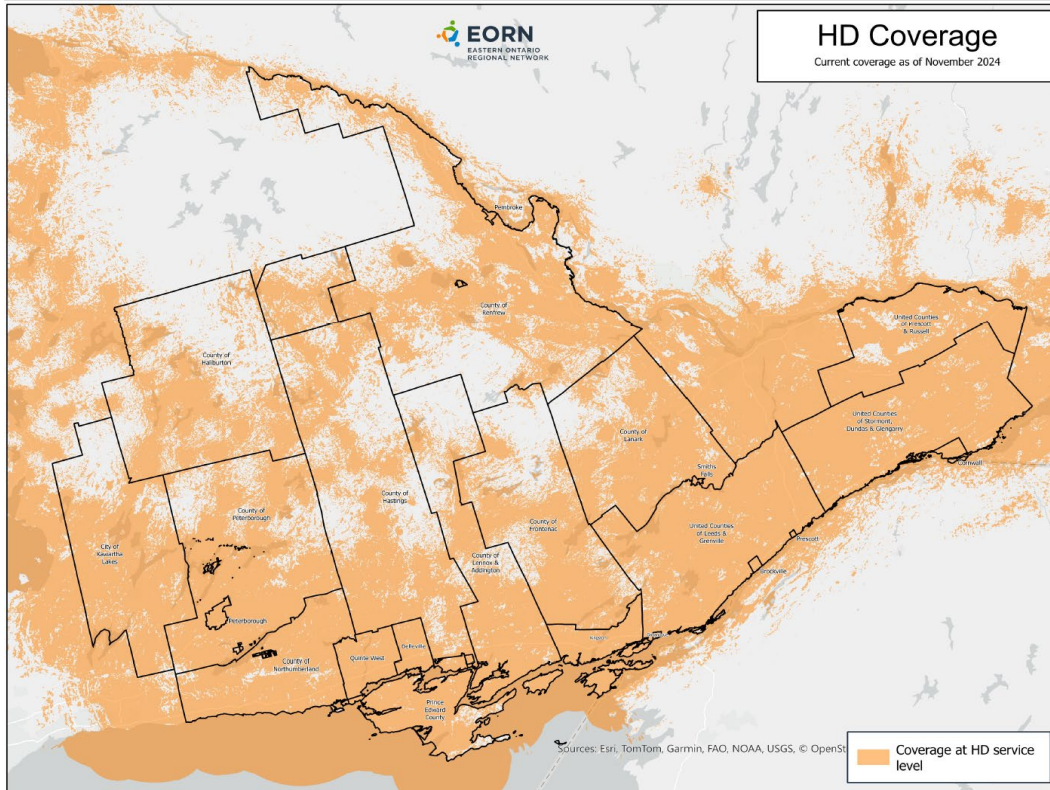
Note that many Year 3 sites which were delayed were constructed in Year 4.



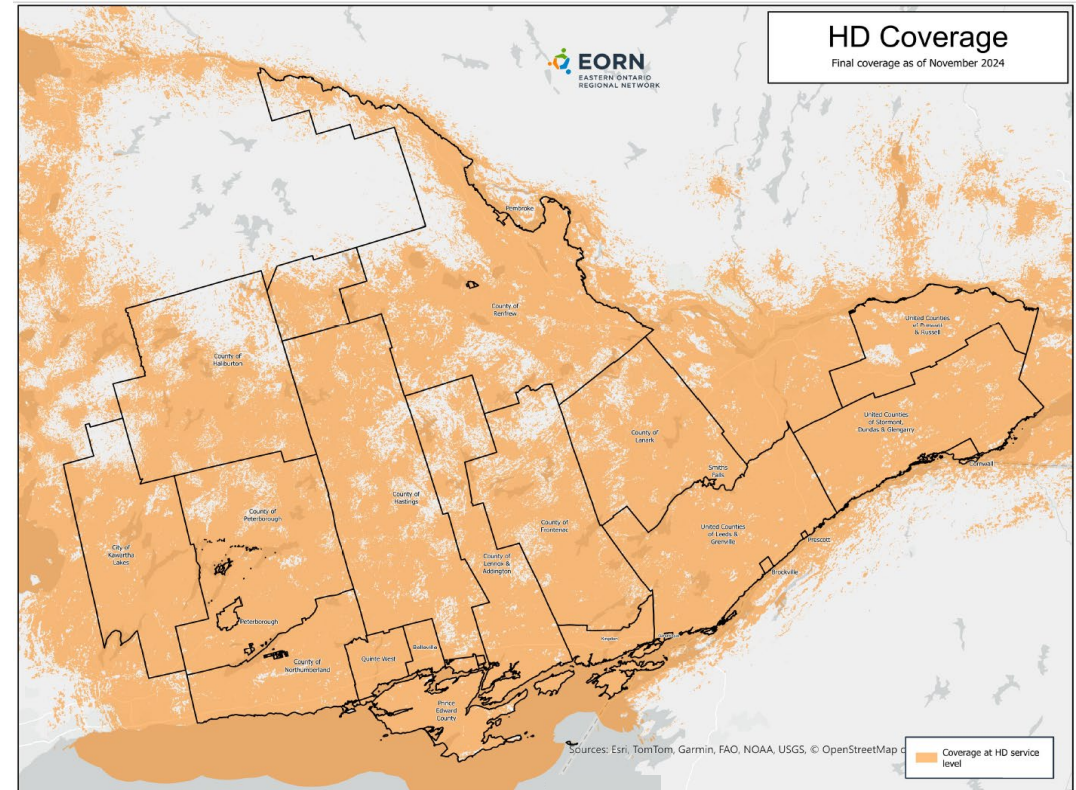
Frontenac County Construction Plan

Tower identifier	Site name	Municipality	In-service plan
Colocations			
C8656	Smith Road at North Frontenac	Township of North Frontenac	2025
C8659	<u>Canonto Road at Ompah</u>	Township of North Frontenac	2026
New towers			
C8658	Ardoch Road and Road 509	Township of Central Frontenac	2026
C8688	Long Lake Road and Middle Road	Township of Central Frontenac	2025
C8660	Matawatchan Road at Wilson	Township of North Frontenac	2026
C8661	Sunday Lake Road Drive and Cruise Road	Township of North Frontenac	2025
C8691	Devil Lake Road at Little Wolfe Lake	Township of South Frontenac	2025
C8721	Westport Road at White Lake	Township of South Frontenac	2025
C8788	Moreland –Dixie Road and South Frontenac Road 12	Township of South Frontenac	2026

Current HD Coverage Versus Final HD Coverage



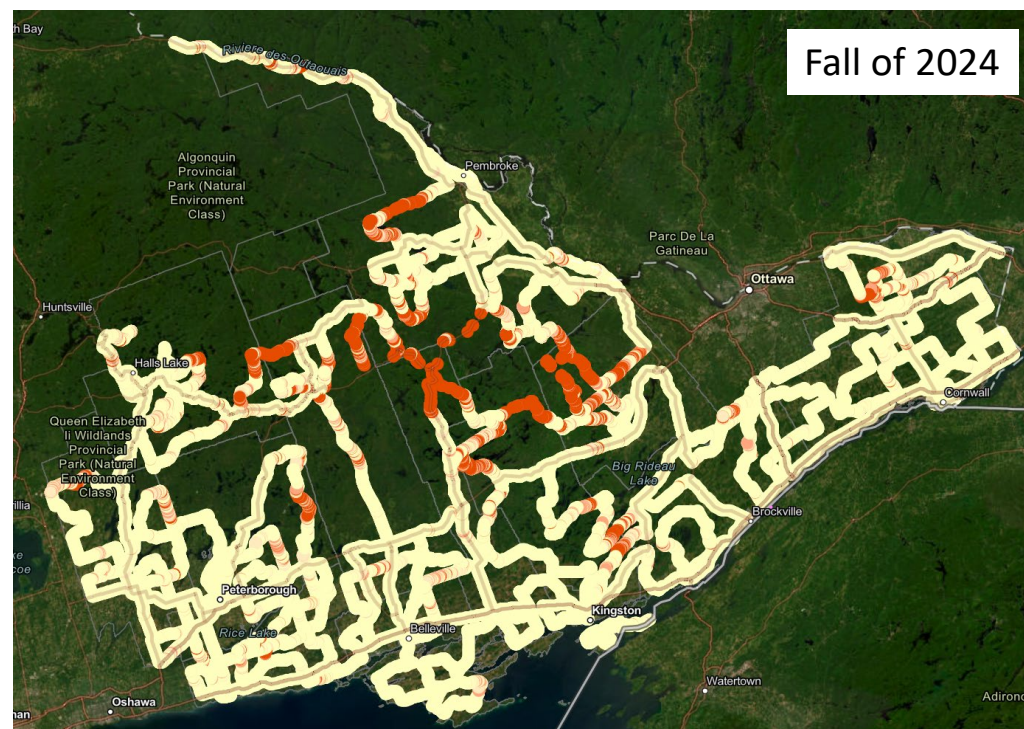
86.9% against demand



94.3% against demand



Drive Test Data



Red is weak coverage



EORN Activities 2024

Due to public funding and support for the project, there is an expectation by elected officials and the public for regular updates on the status of the project.



Timelines and Next Steps

- Upgrades to existing towers 2021 - 2024
- Land use authority process 2021 - 2025
- Indigenous consultation process 2021 - 2026
- New tower construction 2022 - 2026
- Announcements 2022 – 2026
- Pursue other initiatives 2022 - 2030



Evolution of the Canadian Telecommunication Landscape

Telecoms are working with third-party investors to reduce their debt, increase shareholders profits and maintain and grow their networks.

- Blackstone Networks
 - Rogers Communications announced that it has finalized an agreement to sell a 49.9% stake in a portion of its wireless traffic transport infrastructure for \$7 billion to Blackstone.
 - Blackstone will hold a 20% voting stake, while Rogers retains the remaining shares and maintains full operational control of the infrastructure network.
 - Rogers has the option to buy back the minority stake between 2033 and 2037.
- Redwood Infrastructure
 - Rogers Communications recently finalized a significant financial agreement with Redwood Infrastructure, which involves the sale and transfer of critical vertical real estate assets that form part of Rogers' wireless infrastructure.
 - Model could create a more competitive landscape as Redwood Infrastructure is a supporter of co-location models.
 - Redwood has also been introduced in the fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) network build.



Evolution of the Canadian Telecommunication Landscape cont.

- Bell Canada
 - November 2024 Bell announced the purchase of Ziplly Networks the largest, regionally-focused fibre internet provider in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, with operations and assets in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.
 - Bell divested their stake in MLSE and paid \$7 billion for Ziplly.
 - Reaction to an ongoing battle between Bell and the CRTC on the CRTC direction for Bell to open their FTTH network to smaller ISPs.
- Telus Announcement
 - March 2025 Telus announced that it is selling a minority stake (49.5%) in the 3,000-tower portfolio to raise funds to reduce its debt.
 - Valued between \$1-3 billion.
- Xplore Networks
 - Announced the release of their 5G Ultra Highspeed network across Canada.
 - A number of towers in eastern Ontario will be upgraded with this technology allowing speeds of up to 250 Mbps.

EORN Strategic Plan



EORN

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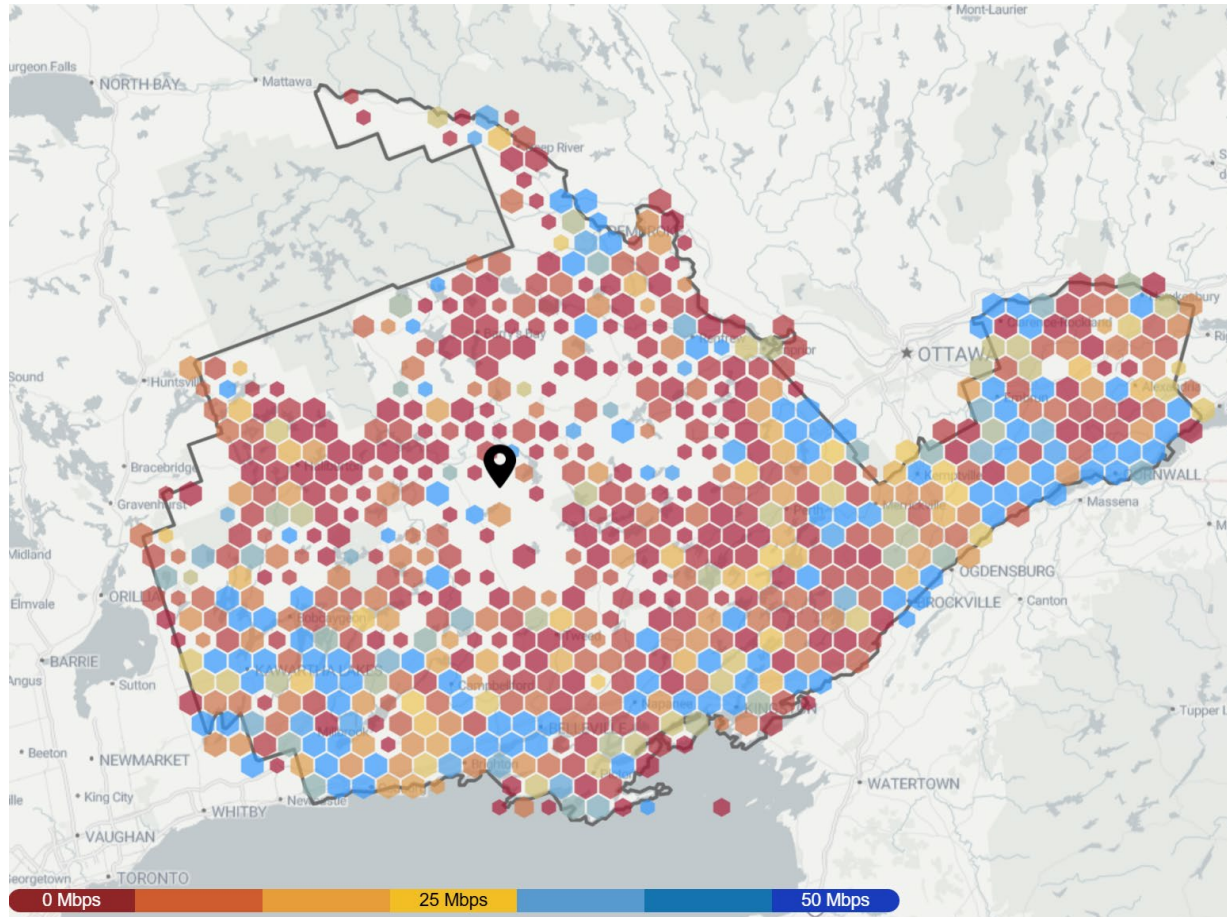
EORN Strategic Plan cont.

- EORN is almost one year into their four-year strategic plan
- The change to EORN's letters of patent allows for greater versatility to work on various projects within the region
 - EORN's four key services are:
 - Project management services
 - Infrastructure project services
 - Technology services support
 - Municipal support
- EORN works closely with the EOWC and EOLC to ensure possible projects align

EORN's Current Initiatives

- Development and successful implementation of a duty to consult process
- Automated speed enforcement introduction and review with Lanark
- Canadian Internet Registry Authority (CIRA) partnership in broadband performance
- Very last premise (VLP) projects to close the gaps in the provincial broadband projects
- Geographic information system (GIS) mapping exercise working to support digital twin (EOLC)
- Regional procurement model for joint services, such as cybersecurity

CIRA Performance Testing



All tests since 2015

- EORN has signed on as a community partner with CIRA to help gather data about internet speeds across the region.
- EORN will use the data to help identify real gap areas and develop programs to fill them.
- Need participation from residents across the region.
- Prior to testing, important to move the black pin as close as possible to the test location.
- <https://performance.cira.ca/>



Questions



EORN

EASTERN ONTARIO
REGIONAL NETWORK

By-Law No. 2025-020

of

The Corporation of the County OF Frontenac

being a by-law to confirm all actions and proceedings of County Council on
May 14, 2025

Whereas Section 8 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25* and amendments thereto provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under the *Municipal Act* or any other *Act*; and;

Whereas Subsection 2 of Section 11 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25* and amendments thereto provides that a lower-tier municipality and an upper-tier municipality may pass by-laws respecting matters within the spheres of jurisdiction described in the Table to Subsection 2 subject to certain provisions, and;

Whereas Section 5 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25* and amendments thereto provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under Section 8 shall be exercised by its council and by by-law unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise; and;

Whereas the Council of the County of Frontenac deems it expedient to confirm its actions and proceedings;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the County of Frontenac hereby enacts as follows:

1. **That** all actions and proceedings of the Council of the County of Frontenac taken at its special meeting held on May 14, 2025, be confirmed as actions for which the municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person.
2. **That** all actions and proceedings of the Council of the County of Frontenac taken at its special meeting held on May 14, 2025, be confirmed as being matters within the spheres of jurisdiction described in Subsection 2 of Section 11 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25* and amendments thereto.
3. **That** all actions and proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Frontenac taken at its special meeting held on May 14, 2025, except those taken by by-law and those required by by-law to be done by resolution are hereby sanctioned, ratified and confirmed as though set out within and forming part of this by-law.

4. **That** this by-law shall come into force and take effect as of the final passing thereof.

Read a First and Second Time this 14th day of May 2025

Read a Third Time and Finally Passed, Signed and Sealed this 14th day of May 2025.

The Corporation of the County of Frontenac

Gerry Lichty, Warden

Jannette Amini, Clerk