



GEORGINA

Media Release

Town of Georgina Corporate Communications
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Georgina moves forward with Broadband Strategy and Action Plan

Georgina, ON – The Town of Georgina is developing a Broadband Strategy and Action Plan to ensure all residents and businesses have access to affordable and reliable broadband connectivity options.

“Everyone in our growing community should have access to high-speed internet and we are working toward that goal,” said Mayor Margaret Quirk. “The internet is often referred to as the fourth utility and has become a critical tool in our daily lives. It is essential in today’s economy and necessary for us to continue to grow Georgina’s business community. It shouldn’t matter where you live, our residents and businesses need access to high-speed affordable internet connectivity. It’s a local economic development driver and we need to be competitive in today’s digital world.”

On Feb. 12, Members of Council participated in a workshop which focused on setting direction for the strategy and looked at a vision, guiding principles, top priorities, funding options and the future of the South Shore Community Broadband – a wireless network owned by the Town.

Council agreed on a vision for the plan – all businesses and residents have access to affordable and reliable broadband connectivity options at the service levels they require based on technology advancements, private market forces and funding commitments from senior levels of government.

The top priorities for the plan include connectivity for everyone, leveraging broadband to foster economic development and providing community Wi-Fi in areas such as libraries, tourist destinations and other public facilities. The direction of the strategy and action plan include leveraging private-public partnerships, establishing policies to promote broadband deployment, and earmarking reserve funds to leverage external funding opportunities.

A report will come back to Council on March 25 with a terms of reference for the Broadband Strategy and Action Plan. The workshop presentation and action plan can be found at georgina.ca/broadband.

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