

# FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

October 5, 2020

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons \* Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6  
SENT VIA EMAIL: [justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau

Again, Prime Minister, we wish to thank you and your Government for your Leadership during the Coronavirus Pandemic. We want to commend you for Friday's \$10 Billion announcement from the Canada Infrastructure Bank to continue the economic stimulus as our Country recovers.

Let me reassure you that Municipalities in Northeastern Ontario share your vision to address Canada's Climate Change targets, as Northerners are all concerned about the environment. We urge your Government to work with the Province of Ontario and the other Provinces on initiatives to meet those targets. Due to the vastness of Northern Ontario, electric municipal transit will only be practical in a few centres.

In 2016, The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) asked that Broadband be declared an Essential Service. Even with the considerable investment made by the Federal & Provincial Governments to date, there is still a significant area that can't connect with the world. We were encouraged that Broadband was included in your announcement, as it is one of our members' most pressing needs. As you know, we recently asked your Government to request the CRTC to consider licensing Canadian and International Satellite Companies to fill that need. We would hope the Canada Infrastructure Bank considers those companies when it allocates Broadband funding.

The FONOM Board looks forward to working with the upper levels of Government to grow the Canadian Economy. In this unprecedented time, only by working co-operatively will we persevere.

Respectfully,



Danny Whalen  
FONOM President

# FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Cc: Premier Doug Ford  
Minister Navdeep Bains  
Honourable Anthony Rota  
Honourable Marc Serre  
Honourable Terry Sheehan  
Honourable Charlie Angus  
Honourable Carol Hughes  
Honourable Paul Lefebvre  
Honourable Scott Aitchison  
Min. Steve Clark  
Min. Laurie Scott  
Min. Victor Fedeli  
Min. Ross Romano  
Norm Miller, MPP  
Jamie West, MPP  
John Vanthof, MPP  
Gilles Brisson, MPP  
Michael Mantha, MPP