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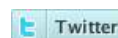
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NEWS: Nunavut September 15, 2017 - 8:00 am

Ottawa gives Northwestel \$50 million to improve Nunavut internet

Feds want to Nunavut households to have minimum 5 Mbps internet speed

NUNATSIAQ NEWS



Navdeep Bains, minister of innovation, science and economic development, announces, at the Iqaluit library Sept. 14, that his government will give Northwestel "nearly \$50 million" to improve Nunavut internet infrastructure. (PHOTO BY FRANK REARDON)

The federal government says it will give Northwestel "nearly \$50 million" to improve high-speed internet coverage across Nunavut—but don't blame northerners if they roll their eyes at the news.

Navdeep Bains, the minister of innovation, science and economic development, made the announcement in Iqaluit Sept. 14, saying the spending "will attract an additional \$73 million from Northwestel, which will build the backbone satellite network needed to make higher-speed internet available in every community across Nunavut."

The news release said the money will ensure households in Nunavut have internet speeds of at least 5 Mbps, a figure most northern internet users would agree is still relatively slow compared to the rest of Canada.

And although Ottawa's release promises that this upgrade will allow Canadians "to participate fully in the digital economy, seize new business opportunities, and connect with friends and family around the world," it doesn't quite satisfy minimum speeds established by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission.

The CRTC ruled in December 2016 that, no matter where they live, Canadians deserve a base level of internet connectivity speed: 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload

But both Northwestel and Bains are promoting the announcement as a big gain for the North.

"By the end of 2019, schools, health centres and service providers across Nunavut will have broadband speeds significantly faster than those available today," said Curtis Shaw, chief

operating officer for Northwestel. He didn't elaborate on "significantly faster."

The \$50 million from Ottawa is part of a "Connect to Innovate" program announced in the 2016 Liberal budget which set aside \$500 million to improve high speed internet in rural and remote Canadian communities.

That means Nunavut—home to nothing but remote communities—will get roughly 10 per cent of that total fund.

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(22) Comments:

#1. Posted by Common Sense on September 15, 2017

What a sham. We already get overcharged for a service we don't get the advertised speeds for. On top of that their usage tracker tracks your use per month (1st-30th of the month for example) yet your billing period could be from the 17th to the 17th. I've even had my modem unplugged and still had usage shown on the tracker. You tell them. They don't care.

All kinds of wrong here. NWTel could tell me the sky is blue and I would have to look out the window to double check. You can get better Internet in the middle of the jungle in Africa than you can here.

#2. Posted by Embarrassing on September 15, 2017

What a complete waste of time this announcement was. 50m is nothing when it comes to broadband infrastructure. And giving it to the NWTel monopoly? Wow.

I'm not sure who this is supposed to impress. Doing nothing would have been a better political move for the Liberals. This is just pandering but being extremely cheap. So infuriating.

#3. Posted by Chris Flintstone on September 15, 2017

For Nunavummiut, it's not so much the download speed it's the miniscule 20 GB for \$84 per month. Faster MBPS will only allow us to eat up that 20 gb's faster and then we'll have to spend a lot more money to buy extra gigs until our monthly anniversary date arrives. It's just a way for Northwestel or Qiniq to make more money from their customers. My 2 cents from Bedrock, Nunavut

#4. Posted by Real dollar savings on September 15, 2017

These things cost mega bucks but the use of them offsets so much in other costs. By itself it seems like a big waste but will easily pay for itself in years of service. So chill.

#5. Posted by Jazz Hands on September 15, 2017

Really! Northwestel! What a waste of federal funds! Invest in the overall infrastructure to connect to rest of the world.

I send a message to my buddy that is sitting next to me and it goes into space and he gets it 5 minutes later. Good thing I wasn't having a heart attack and he had to download how to save me.

#6. Posted by Online Gamer on September 15, 2017

Does this mean we will be able to play Call of Duty online now?

#7. Posted by wondering on September 15, 2017

just wondering if the new connection will also include unlimited downloads? or are we still going to pay \$10 per gig after 50 gigs. faster internet means more usage at faster speeds, (YouTube videos, videos on Facebook, Snap Chat, NetFlix) will mean more cost to the customer, sometimes over \$1000 a month for watching videos.

#8. Posted by dont use NWTEL on September 15, 2017

so NWTEL gets money but I don't use and never will use NWTEL for my internet. so I guess I'm stuck with what I get from other companies. WHY the monopoly just to NWTEL just look at their financial structure over the last 20 years. subsidy after subsidy and still losing money.

Schools, Health centres in all of Nunavut will have more ...so does that means GN has signed a contract with NWTEL??? I guess it is 73 million the same as NWTEL will put in.

#9. Posted by 58008 on September 15, 2017

#6: 5MBps will not allow you to play online gaming against southern players. It may allow to play against people in other communities, but not rest of the world with faster internet.

I was really hoping this was to announce to get the standard of 50MBps for NU, but it's to help the other communities get to Iqaluit speed. \$123m is a lot of money to improve this outdated infrastructure. They keep putting bandaids on broken pipe

Arctic Consultants logo featuring a polar bear in a circle with the text "ARCTIC CONSULTANTS" and "Merchands-aveuturiers". Below the logo, it says "Consultants de l'Arctique" and "Arctic Consultants". Further down, it mentions "Merchands-aveuturiers" and "Adventurers by trade". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Tel: (866) 353-3532 | Fax: (888) 353-1251 | Email: info@arcticconsultants.ca" and the website "www.arcticconsultants.ca".

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#10. Posted by Common Sense on September 15, 2017

Also, Don't forget The Federal Government sold Telesat to Bell in 1998. It used to be a Crown corporation. They screwed us over a long time ago.

#11. Posted by Northern Guy on September 15, 2017

#6 in a word ... NO!

#12. Posted by Chris Flintstone on September 15, 2017

Would have been better off investing this money for Fiber optic cables

#13. Posted by Lol on September 15, 2017

5 to 15 Mbps means we're going to pay 200 to 500 dollars a month or even more.

#14. Posted by 123456 on September 15, 2017

#9 Wrong, 5mbps is plenty of bandwidth to play a game over the internet that's not the issue. The issue is latency. The signal has to go to space then come back down to the destination, back up to space and to this fellow's game. Obviously that causes delay and this can only be fixed by putting a fiber in, but that will cost \$100 of millions so doubt that will happen anytime soon.

#15. Posted by priorities on September 15, 2017

Slow internet? Boo hoo. Tell Ottawa that solving Nunavut's housing shortage crisis is far more important right now. Use that money to build some much needed housing.

#16. Posted by inuk on September 15, 2017

why? so stupid! this should've gone to First Air, Housing and Northwest Company!! as a Baker Laker I'm tired of dealing with only one airline that said in a statement. "Calm air will have better services and on time flights but no! always delayed! takes forever to receive freights come on wake up!! Our rent is so high just cause I work at the Meadowbank mine like someone said. rent shouldn't be base on our income!! and with the Northwest company. ripping off customers since 1987" who do we vote for? trusted morons!?!

#17. Posted by Jeff Philipp on September 15, 2017

Unfortunately, in a country as large as Canada \$500M does not go very far when trying to connect remote & rural communities. In fact, the Federal Government received over 1,000 applications for funding which amounted to Billions of dollars.

So, rather than make (what we feel) is the best decision the Government mad a political one. Give everyone a little. \$50M for Nunavut and \$450M for the rest of Canada.

Sadly, that means (again) that consumers in Nunavut suffer and competition is set back a decade.

The answer is actually simple but to a monopoly it is death:

- shared public infrastructure (antenna, buildings, towers, capacity, local trained support)
- CRTC regulated to ensure fair wholesale pricing for all competitors
- same services & investment in ALL communities
- long term planning rather than 4-year election cycles
- open access so anyone can start a new service easily

The answer, we feel, is www.qimirluk.com

Then again, I may be biased! 😊

#18. Posted by Neil Burgess on September 15, 2017

#17 - there you go, making sense again -)

#19. Posted by Unbiased on September 15, 2017

@#17 On your 5 points, doesn't this hit all of them (or at least as well as Qiniq would) except long term planning?

#20. Posted by Southern problems on September 15, 2017

People get so upset over internet. It's a luxury still, in case most of you forget. I get the banking online is the only option in Most communities, but complaining about gaming, Facebook, and who got a slice of the pie is all moot point.

Many communities have boil water orders on perpetually, and homeless who die senselessly. Between the new airport, pool, and now this money we could have put a huge dent in basic human needs. Clean and safe drinking water, a roof over your head. But people want southern things while the poor and unfortunate get shunned again.

#21. Posted by Send a raven on September 16, 2017

I'm still waiting for this page to finish downloading...



Continued ...



Continued ...



#22. Posted by Shazam on September 16, 2017

Look at all the people who want a free house. They will never be happy about anything.

Your Email:

Your Name:

Remember my personal information

Your Location:

Your comment:

Notify me of follow-up comments?

Project Coordinator Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Project Coordinator's primary responsibility is to ensure and enable the efficient coordination and administration of QIA social programming. The person in this position will be accountable for the transparent deployment and administration of community programs and initiatives.

Applications can be delivered in person or by mail to:

David McAdams
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Igluvut building, 2nd floor
P.O. Box 1340
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Tel: (867) 975-8400
Fax: (867) 979-3238
Email: resumes@qia.ca
www.qia.ca



Qikiqtani Inuit Association

CLOSING DATE: Internal, October 6, 2017
External, October 13, 2017

Continued ...

Nunatsiāq News is the newspaper of record for the Eastern Arctic. Serving 45 communities and 70,000 readers a week with its website and print edition, Nunatsiāq News continues to grow its reach and readership with its print and advertising revenue. It is one of the largest news organizations in the Arctic and is a proud member of the Canadian Press network.

Managing Editor

NUNATSIAQ NEWS

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UTILITY RATES REVIEW COUNCIL OF NUNAVUT
IGLUIN AULATUTTIGUUN AKITUTTELANGINNUI KATIMAYIT NUNAVUMMI
CONSEIL D'EXAMEN DES TAUX DES ENTREPRISES DE SERVICES DU NUNAVUT

Qulliq Energy Corporation has filed for a Major Project Permit Application (MPPA) with the Minister Responsible for QEC. The MPPA requests approval for replacement of the existing 2.2MW diesel plant with a 2.6MW diesel plant, at a new site in Kugluktuk. QEC indicates that the proposed project will address deficiencies at the nearly 50 year old existing plant.

The estimated cost of the project is \$31.4 Million.

Nunavummiut may make written submissions regarding this project permit application.

The deadline for written submissions is: 5 p.m. (EST) October 18, 2017.

More ...

October 16-26, 30, 2017
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IHC

The mandate

Under the authority of the board of directors, the Executive Director is responsible for the administration and operation of the establishment as well as for planning, organizing and implementing healthcare and social services programs.

Please send your resume, with a copy in English, by October 15, 2017 to



Samuel Mercier - HR

By post:
Samuel Mercier
Human resources
Inuulitsivik Health Center
Puvirnituq (Québec) J0M 1P0
E-mail: samuel.mercier.csi@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

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Wildlife Management Biologist: Marine Mammals Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) is an Institution of Public Government established under the Nunavut Agreement, and situated in Iqaluit, Nunavut. The NWMB is currently seeking an energetic individual to fill the permanent full-time position of **Wildlife Management Biologist: Marine Mammals**.

For a copy of the complete job description and schedule of benefits, or to submit resumes, please contact:



Patricia Pearson
Director of Finance and Administration
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
Box 1379, Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Phone: (867) 975-7300
Fax: (888) 421-9832
Email: ppearson@nwmb.com

Closing Date: October 27, 2017 at 5:00pm EST

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IN BAFFIN BAY AND DAVIS STRAIT

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) will be hosting two day **Public Scoping Meetings** to discuss the **Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait**, which will assess the potential for offshore oil and gas activities in the area.

The NIRB invites YOU to attend these meetings to:

- Learn about the assessment and how you can participate;
- Ask questions and provide comments; and
- Provide input into the scope of issues this assessment will address.

Contact us!

Nunavut Impact Review Board
Phone Toll-Free: 1-866-233-3033
Email: info@nirb.ca
Fax: 1-867-983-2594

Continued...

Policy Analyst Iqaluit, Nunavut

Under the direction of QJA's Director of Social Policy, the Policy Analyst acts as an advocate on a wide range of social and cultural issues. The Policy Analyst is directly involved in numerous community, regional, territorial, and national initiatives.

Applications can be delivered in person or by mail to:

David McAdams
Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Iqaluit building, 2nd floor
P.O. Box 1340
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Tel: (867) 975-8400
Fax: (867) 979-3238

Email: resumes@qja.ca
www.qja.ca



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Qikiqtani Inuit Association

CLOSING DATE: Internal, October 6, 2017
External, October 13, 2017

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- **Manager, Marketing**
- **Manager, Population Health Information**
- **Manager, Staffing**
- **Deputy Fire Marshal**

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