December 15, 2015

Ms. Janice Charette  
Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet  
Langevin Block  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3

Dear Ms. Charette:

Re: CRTC Regulation of Fibre to the Premise through Broadband Networks

I am writing on behalf of the City of Port Coquitlam. Port Coquitlam is one of the early Canadian communities to receive a fibre to the premise investment, meaning that our residents and businesses have world-leading connectivity.

One of our City's strategic objectives is to facilitate business and employment opportunities in the industrial, retail, office, service, and public sectors in support of a diversified local economy and a higher quality of life in the community. It requires a number of inputs to achieve this objective, including the technological enhancement and economic opportunity that a fibre network offers.

Although Port Coquitlam is a front runner in becoming a connected community, there are many other communities out there that need similar investments to position themselves well for the future. Where access to information and services is becoming more dependent on internet connectivity, we want residents to be able to connect with government, their health care providers, their businesses, their entertainment providers, and, of course, with their friends and family through effective and efficient means.

Ideally a regulatory environment will exist that encourages companies to make multi-million dollar investments in connecting communities to fibre infrastructure, as it is time to increase connectivity across the country. To reduce costs and disruptions to local governments and their residents, a regulatory environment should require utility companies to work together to better coordinate the undergrounding of wiring and infrastructure in the communities in which they operate.
We thank you for your consideration and look forward to a favorable response.

We consider the potential impact of your decision on local communities.

In sum, given the importance of the fibre networks to all Canadians, we ask that the Cabinet