OFFICE of the MAYOR

February 25th, 2011

Manager, Mobile Technology and Services
Industry Canada
300 Slater Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0C8

Subject: Gazette Notice No. SMSE-018-10
Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Mobile Spectrum

Economic development and growth of a sustainable four season economy is critically dependent on access to high speed internet technology, particularly in a less urban community such as the Township of Muskoka Lakes. In this regard we understand that the 700 MHz spectrum to be auctioned at the end of next year will power 4G, the next generation of mobile technology – technology that promises to deliver speeds of up to 100+ Mbps.

Our concern is that Muskoka Lakes is not passed by when the next generation of wireless technology rolls out. Accordingly, on behalf of the residents and businesses of Muskoka Lakes I wish to express our strong support for an open and transparent mobile spectrum auction, with no special treatment for any wireless provider or those that only offer services in Canada's biggest cities. As such all communities across the country – including growing communities like ours – can benefit equally through a fair and open market auction.

I trust that the government will consider the interests of the Township of Muskoka Lakes in establishing the rules that govern the upcoming auction for scarce 700 MHz spectrum.

Sincerely,

Mayor Murphy