

September 14, 2018

Cariboo Regional District
Board of Directors
Suite D, 180 North 3rd Avenue
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 2A4

Cariboo Regional District
File No. 400-40

SEP 18 2018

Referred To ... CAO/Chair /
Board

Dear Board of Directors,

Thank you for submitting a response to the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) consultation regarding the 3500 MHz and 3800 MHz frequency bands. This consultation is important to Canada's rural broadband network operators. By lending your voice, you have helped to increase ISED's awareness of the effect their policies have on rural connectivity.

We encourage you to continue your advocacy of rural broadband connectivity. In particular, we draw your attention to the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology (INDU), chaired by Dan Ruimy, MP Pitt Meadows—Maple Ridge. This committee published a report in April 2018 entitled Broadband Connectivity in Canada: Overcoming the Digital Divide. This report proposed a number of measures which, if adopted as policy direction by ISED, would have a significant positive impact on connectivity in rural communities.

Again, thank you for taking the time to respond to ISED in support of rural broadband. If you are interested in learning more about the advocacy initiatives of ABC Communications or the British Columbia Broadband Association, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Falko Kadenbach
Vice President
ABC Communications



Cariboo
Regional
District

OFFICE OF THE CHAIR

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July 9, 2018

VIA EMAIL: ic.spectrumauctions-encheresduspectre.ic@canada.ca

E-MAILED

Senior Director
Spectrum Licensing and Auction Operations
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

Re: Gazette Notice SLPB-004-18: *Consultation on Revisions to the
3500 MHz Band to Accommodate Flexible use and Preliminary
Consultation on Changes to the 3800 MHz Band*

Access to broadband connectivity is critical to rural households in Canada. The vitality of rural and remote communities depends on our ability to participate in the digital economy and engage with friends, family, educational opportunities, and government services over the internet. Fixed wireless spectrum is crucial to rural connectivity.

On behalf of the Cariboo Regional District Board, I would like to express deep concern about the proposed reduction of spectrum described in Option 1 (paragraph 46). Reducing the spectrum available for rural broadband networks will adversely affect broadband services in rural communities across Canada.

We urge ISED to choose Option 2 (paragraph 48), which does not reduce the spectrum holdings of small rural service providers. Better yet, we urge ISED to not reduce any spectrum holdings that are currently used for providing service in rural communities, and to make more spectrum available for providing fixed wireless services in rural communities.

We appreciate ISED's ongoing efforts to support rural broadband connectivity in Canada through funding programs. We encourage ISED to leverage these investments by ensuring that adequate spectrum will be available for last-mile broadband services.

Thank you for considering our submission.

Yours truly,

Margo Wagner
Chair

building communities together