

MEETING NOTE

Advice to Deputy Minister

MEETING DATE: September 15, 2021

CLIFF#: 115790

ATTENDEES: Stefan Woloszyn, Chief Executive Officer, **CityWest**
Shauna Brouwer, Deputy Minister, **CITZ**
CJ Ritchie, Associate DM and GCIO, **CITZ**

ISSUE: Connected Coast Network Project Update

BACKGROUND:

The Connected Coast Network project involves the installation of a 3,557 km undersea cable and 159 landing sites in proximity to 139 communities. The project is led by CityWest and Strathcona Regional District (SRD).

Funding has been secured for the project with Canada as the lead funder under the Connect to Innovate program. The project is expected to be completed by March 31, 2023.

The project is currently in permitting, consultations, and final network design.

DISCUSSION:

Permitting for Connected Coast Network Project

- The project has been divided into sections called 'permit blocks' for tracking of permit acquisitions.
- Each permit block contains numerous landing sites and fibre segments and is further organized into two phases. **ATT-1** outlines the permit blocks and phases led by CityWest and the SRD.
- The construction of landing sites is required in advance of the subsea fibre.
- For landing sites in Permit Block 3 (Block 3 Permit 1 and Block 3 Permit 3 in **ATT-1**) the project has secured all permits that will enable construction activities on these landing sites.
- The Connected Coast Network project is working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's (FLNR) FrontCounterBC Smithers office for provincial permitting requirements and with the federal government for federal permitting requirements.
- FLNR has advised the project leads that ^{s.13} and are currently working with Parks to address permit delays.
- ^{s.16}
- In Permit Block 3, the project team has identified acquiring permits from Transport Canada and the Prince Rupert Port Authority as critical, requiring a 30 day public consultation period. This is outside of the Province's jurisdiction.

Sub-Sea Cable Laying and Other Construction Activities

- A cable laying vessel for the Connected Coast Network project called the CanPac Valour¹ (previously known as Delta Monarch) is scheduled to arrive in Campbell River from the Gulf of Mexico by early October 2021. See **ATT-2** for vessel photos and specifications.
 - The vessel was earlier scheduled to arrive by end-August 2021 but has been delayed due to mechanical and pandemic related issues.
- After undergoing a refit, the vessel will carry fibre cable for the project and is expected to begin laying cable starting from Tlell in late 2021.
- Construction on landing sites began on September 3, 2021, with the installation of vaults and conduits at Oona River, Kitkatla, Bonilla Island, and Prince Rupert landing sites.

Changes to Landing Sites

- s.13; s.16
- These modifications result from design changes to provide additional coverage, or require easier physical access, or a case where a site is no longer required.
- s.13; s.16
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NEXT STEPS:

- The Connected Coast Network project leads, CityWest and SRD, continue to work closely with FLNR to acquire necessary permits.
- FLNR has committed^{s.13} and continues to take the lead in surfacing and addressing delays with other branches and ministries regarding permitting requests.
- The project also requires permits from federal agencies including Transport Canada for certain sections of the project build.
- Construction of landing sites has started in the North from Bonilla Island to Kitkatla.
- Opportunities to take photographs and videos during the construction process are underway.

Attachment(s): ATT-1 Permit Block Overview

ATT-2 CanPac Valour Specification

Contact: Howard Randell, Executive Director, 250 415-6867

Susan Stanford, Assistant Deputy Minister, 778 698-2349

¹ Marine Traffic Tracker: [MarineTraffic: Global Ship Tracking Intelligence](#) | AIS Marine Traffic

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CanPac Valour (Previously known as Delta Monarch) Specifications

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MEETING NOTE

Advice to Minister Beare

MEETING DATE: September 16, 2021

CLIFF#: 115803

ATTENDEES: Minister Ravi Kahlon
Minister Lisa Beare
Deputy Minister Shauna Brouwer
CJ Ritchie, Associate Deputy Minister
Susan Stanford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Connectivity Division

ISSUE: Draft Economic Plan and Connectivity

BACKGROUND:

s.13

DISCUSSION:

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

NEXT STEPS:

s.12; s.13; s.17

SUGGESTED RESPONSE / KEY MESSAGES:

s.13

Attachment: ATT 1 -s.12; s.13
Contact: Susan Stanford, ADM Connectivity 250-580-7459

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s.12 ; s.13

DECISION NOTE

Advice to Deputy Minister

DATE: October 5, 2021

CLIFF#: 115870

ISSUE: Connecting British Columbia program – Project Timeline Extension Request

BACKGROUND:

This decision note focuses on a request received from Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) on September 15, 2021, for guidance on project extensions for certain projects funded by phase 4 Economic Recovery Intake.

Projects funded by the Economic Recovery Intake (ERI) are to be completed by October 31, 2021, however with supply chain issues due to the pandemic and the impact of wildfires, recipients have asked for project extensions that range from one month to more than one year (December 2022).

As of August 31, 2021, the program has committed \$85.528M toward 54 projects. There is \$4.678M remaining to be allocated to new and waitlisted projects.

DISCUSSION:

Project extension requests have been received from six service providers affecting 19 projects. See ATT 1, 2 and 3 for letters from BC Ferries, CityWest, Lytton Area Wireless Society, Minto, Nisga'a Nation, Shaw, and Rogers.

There is a wide recognition in the telecommunications industry that the pandemic has affected the supply chain for equipment required by service providers to enable completion of their projects. The wildfires have also impacted the completion timelines for some projects.

The request for guidance affects not only projects that are currently inflight, but also new applications that are seeking funding.

- An example of a new project is from the Lytton Area Wireless Society to build a new network for Lytton. In this case, the internet service provider is seeking a project completion date of December 31, 2022.
- Another example,^{s.16}

OPTIONS

Option 1: NDIT to extend ERI Phase 4 project completion timelines to December 31, 2022.

Implications:

- NDIT can extend project timelines on a case-by-case basis and respond back to service providers on a timely basis.
- Requires outreach to regional districts and local governments to advise that projects are in progress thereby managing community expectations.

s.13

RECOMMENDATION: Option 1: NDIT to extend ERI Phase 4 project completion timelines to December 31, 2022.

*(please circle)***APPROVED****NOT APPROVED****OPTION** 1

Shauna Brouwer Deputy Minister
Ministry of Citizens' Services

October 12, 2021

Date

Attachment(s): ATT-1, 2 and 3 NDIT Request for Guidance plus recipient extension requests
Contact: Howard Randell, Executive Director, Network BC, 250 415-6867

September 15, 2021

Ministry of Citizens' Services
PO Box 9412 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9A0

Attention: Susan Stanford
Assistant Deputy Minister

Subject: Connecting B.C. Program – Project Timeline Extension Request

Dear Susan,

We are writing to you to request a timeline extension for Connecting B.C. Economic Recovery Intake (Phase 4 ERI) projects due to global supply chain interruptions and land acquisition and permitting delays that project recipients have experienced.

For your reference, we have included letters from the recipients outlining their timeline requests and rationales. The existing agreement between the Ministry and NDIT stipulates most ERI projects must be completed by October 31, 2021. In March, the Ministry provided the Trust (Ref letter 114821), with the ability to extend ERI project completion dates to October 31, 2022, for the Rogers Highway 16 cellular project and all other project applications received after March 15, 2021. We are requesting your permission to extend timelines on a case-by-case basis for the following projects:

Project Number	Proponent/Project	New Completion Date (Extension Amount)	Rationale
7122-85	Shaw/Pender, Mayne and Galiano Islands Microwave Upgrade	December 1, 2021 (1 month)	Supply chain
7569-85	Nisga'a Lisims/Dim Huxagat wil uya'ahl ts'amtX	January 31, 2022 (3 months)	Supply chain
7148-85	Rogers/FWA South	February 28, 2022 (4 months)	Supply chain, land acquisition
7147-85	Rogers/Hwy 14 Sooke to Port Renfrew	June 30, 2022 (8 months)	
7149-85	Rogers/Hwy 95 Harrogate to Nicholson	July 31, 2022 (9 months)	
7152-85	Rogers/Hwy 97 Pine Pass Cellular	July 31, 2022 (9 months)	
7461-85	BC Ferries/Terminal Wi-Fi	July 31, 2022 (9 months)	Supply chain
7115-85	CityWest/Burns Lake	October 31, 2022 (1 year)	Supply chain, permitting process
7201-85	CityWest/Cortes Island		
7304-85	CityWest/Quadra Island		
7313-85	CityWest/Haida Gwaii South		
7315-85	CityWest/Bella Coola		

7320-85	CityWest/Haida Gwaii North		
7331-85	CityWest/Zeballos		
7492-85	CityWest/Hornby Island		
7499-85	CityWest/Denman Island		
7528-85	CityWest/Haida Gwaii-Tlell		
7529-85	CityWest/Haida Gwaii-Tow Hill		

Additionally, we received a request for a project timeline extension from the Lytton Area Wireless Society for a wildfire recovery project that was recently submitted to the ERI funding intake for consideration. We have included the letter for your consideration as the proponent has requested a project completion date of December 31, 2022. Given the recent impacts to the Lytton area, we are comfortable and supportive of the timeline they have proposed, though the project remains subject to technical review prior to any approval decision from the Trust.

We request the Ministry provide us with guidance on whether this project should be considered eligible for ERI funding given the proposed construction timeline, as well as the other projects listed above.

Thank you for your consideration and continued partnership to expand broadband access to rural and remote communities through British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Joel McKay
Chief Executive Officer

c: Howard Randell, Executive Director, Network BC

Attachments: Shaw Communications Inc. Request for Extension Letter - September 10, 2021
Nisga'a Lisims Government Economic Recovery Intake Letter
Rogers FWA North/South Letter - September 10, 2021
Rogers Hwy 14 Sooke to Port Renfrew Letter - September 10, 2021
Rogers Hwy 95 Harrogate to Nicholson Letter - September 10, 2021
Rogers Hwy 97 Pine Pass Letter - September 10, 2021
BC Ferries Request for Project Extension Letter - September 10, 2021
CityWest Project Extension Letter - September 10, 2021
Lytton Area Wireless Society Project Extension Letter - September 10, 2021



September 10, 2021

Christine Gagne
Senior Partner Programs Manager
Northern Development Initiative Trust
1268 5 Ave, Prince George, BC V2L 3L2

Dear Ms. Gagne,

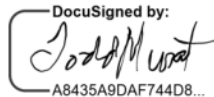
RE: Request for Extension
Connecting British Columbia Program, B.C. Economic Recovery
Pender, Mayne, Galiano Islands Microwave Capacity Upgrade

Shaw continues to appreciate our partnership with Northern Development in building broadband infrastructure to expediate access to high-speed internet service to rural and indigenous underserved communities. Over this past year, due to challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, Shaw is kindly requesting an extension beyond the October 31, 2021 deadline to upgrade internet service to residents on Pender, Mayne and Galiano islands. Shaw continues to encounter a number of delays primarily due to supply chain issues including the delivery of radio equipment and cabinets.

Shaw is seeking an extension of December 1, 2021 to complete the work and upgrade service.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience. We look forward to your feedback.

Best,

DocuSigned by:

A8435A9DAF744D8...

Todd Musat
Director, Critical Infrastructure and Standards

cc: Kiersten Enemark, Government Relations Director, B.C.



Nisga'a Lisims Government

T 250 633 3000 / F 250 633 2367

TF 1 866 633 0888

PO Box 231 / 2000 Lisims Dr

New Aiyansh BC / Canada V0J 1A0

NISGAANATION.CA

**Ms. Christine Gagne
Senior Partner Programs Manager
Northern Development Initiative Trust
301-1268 Fifth Avenue, Prince George BC V2L 3L2**

Re: Economic Recovery Intake – 7569-85

Dear Ms. Gagne:

As per your email of September 2, 2021, please accept this letter as a request from the Nisga'a Nation to extend the completion date of our project to January 31, 2022. We are experiencing supply chain issues specifically for fibre optic splice cases and backup generators, which will delay the project by three months.

We expect to complete the project on budget, and to the same number of premises, but a three-month extension will allow sufficient time to procure those essential components which are currently in short supply.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at ^{s.22} or colliera@niscgaa.net.

Yours very truly,
Nisga'a Nation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Collier Azak'.

Collier Azak – Chief Executive Officer



Northern Development Initiative Trust
Suite 301-1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2
Attn: Christine Gagne

September 10, 2021

FWA North/South

Dear Christine,

Rogers is writing today to advise of a delay on the FWA North/South Project, originally slated for completion by October 31, 2021.

While we have been working diligently to deliver the Project as specified, we have encountered a number of challenges that have caused schedule slippage. This particular project has delays that included land acquisition, design revisions and material supply.

As you are no doubt aware, there is a global supply shortage of structural steel and while we ordered materials well within timelines for delivery to meet our October 31st, 2021 in service date, there are significant delays from our supplier for tower requirements. Regarding land acquisition, not only has Rogers had to relocate some sites for both technical and a lack of willing landlord reasons, but we have also encountered lack of support from communities during the consultation phase resulting in sites having to be cancelled.

Rogers and pushed forward on both fronts and are now seeing schedule dates begin to firm up and planning for construction activities is well underway, estimated delivery timeframe for sites that do not require re-submission to NDIT for additional height requirements is February 2022. Please let me know should you require further details. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Smith".

Victoria Smith
Senior Director, Service Expansion West
Victoria.smith@rci.rogers.com

1900-4710 Kingsway, Burnaby BC V5H 4W4





Northern Development Initiative Trust
Suite 301-1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2
Attn: Christine Gagne

September 10, 2021

Highway 14 - Sooke to Port Renfrew - #7147-85

Dear Christine,

Rogers is writing today to advise of a delay on the Highway 14 - Sooke to Port Renfrew Project, originally slated for completion by October 31, 2021.

While we have been working diligently to deliver the Project as specified, we have encountered a number of challenges that have caused schedule slippage. This particular project has delays that were twofold and related to land acquisition and material supply.

As you are no doubt aware, there is a global supply shortage of structural steel and while we ordered materials well within timelines for delivery to meet our October 31st, 2021 in service date, there are significant delays from our supplier for tower requirements. Regarding land acquisition, not only has Rogers had to relocate some sites for technical reasons, but we have also had challenges with finding willing landlords. Engagement with the Pacheedaht First Nation is critical to this Project. The Pacheedaht has understandably had many priorities to manage of late including the on-going Fairy Creek situation. We look forward to resuming consultation with Pacheedaht with a meeting scheduled for next week.

Rogers will continue to push forward on both fronts and are now seeing schedule dates begin to firm up and planning for construction activities is well underway. Estimated completion date currently is June 2022, however we continue to look for ways to enhance schedule to deliver on an accelerated timeline. Please let me know should you require further details. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Victoria Smith
Senior Director, Service Expansion West
Victoria.smith@rci.rogers.com

1900-4710 Kingsway, Burnaby BC V5H 4W4





Northern Development Initiative Trust
Suite 301-1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2
Attn: Christine Gagne

September 10, 2021

Highway 95 - Harrogate to Nicholson - #7149-85

Dear Christine,

Rogers is writing today to advise of a delay on the Highway 95 - McMurdo Project, originally slated for completion by October 31, 2021.

While we have been working diligently to deliver the Project as specified, we have encountered a number of challenges that have caused schedule slippage. This particular project has delays that were twofold and related to land acquisition and material supply.

As you are no doubt aware, there is a global supply shortage of structural steel and while we ordered materials well within timelines for delivery to meet our October 31st, 2021 in service date, there are significant delays from our supplier for tower requirements. Regarding land acquisition, our originally selected site failed land use and we were required to source a new location. The new site is now proceeding through the Crown application process for approval.

Rogers and pushed forward on both fronts and are now seeing schedule dates begin to firm up and planning for construction activities is well underway. Estimated delivery timeline for this project is July 2022 but is contingent on a favourable outcome of our Crown application. Please let me know should you require further details. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Smith".

Victoria Smith
Senior Director, Service Expansion West
Victoria.smith@rci.rogers.com

1900-4710 Kingsway, Burnaby BC V5H 4W4





Northern Development Initiative Trust
Suite 301-1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2
Attn: Christine Gagne

September 10, 2021

Highway 97 - Pine Pass - #7152-85

Dear Christine,

Rogers is writing today to advise of a delay on the Highway 97 - Pine Pass Project, originally slated for completion by October 31, 2021.

While we have been working diligently to deliver the Project as specified, we have encountered a number of challenges that have caused schedule slippage. This particular project has delays that were twofold and related to land acquisition and material supply.

As you are no doubt aware, there is a global supply shortage of structural steel and while we ordered materials well within timelines for delivery to meet our October 31st, 2021 in service date, there are significant delays from our supplier for tower requirements. Regarding land acquisition, Rogers has had to relocate some sites for technical reasons which delayed our ability to submit Crown applications until June. We received final acceptance of the applications in July and anticipate receipt of LOO in mid-September.

Rogers and pushed forward on both fronts and are now seeing schedule dates begin to firm up and planning for construction activities is well underway. Estimated delivery of this project is July 2022 with expectation of application approval on the mid-September timeline. Please let me know should you require further details. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Victoria Smith
Senior Director, Service Expansion West
Victoria.smith@rci.rogers.com

1900-4710 Kingsway, Burnaby BC V5H 4W4



September 10, 2021

Ms. Christine Gagne
Senior Partner Programs Manager
Northern Development Initiative Trust
301 – 1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2

Dear Ms. Gagne,

RE: BC FERRIES TERMINAL CUSTOMER WI-FI PROJECT (#746185) – REQUEST FOR PROJECT EXTENSION

This letter is to inform you that global supply chain issues have affected our project completion date, and we are seeking an extension of the project.

In April 2021, National Development Initiative Trust granted BC Ferries a project to introduce customer Wi-Fi service at fourteen BC Ferries terminals. At the time of the project application and as per the Agreement, we had highlighted a risk of global supply chain delays that could potentially impact the project timelines. As reported in our monthly meetings and by email to NDIT (dated July 28, 2021), the equipment orders were initially delayed from July to October. We now have been informed that there is a further delay, as noted in the table below.

Item	Qty	Original Delivery Dates	Latest Estimated Delivery
Indoor Access Points	18	July 22, 2021	October 13, 2021
Omnidirectional Outdoor Access Points	17	July 22, 2021	December 21, 2021
Directional Outdoor Access Points	21	July 22, 2021	December 21, 2021

These new delivery times impact the project completion date of October 31, 2021.

We would like to request the Trust to extend the project completion date to July 31, 2022. We feel that this will give us adequate time to receive the equipment and complete the project.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to confirmation of the extension. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely,
BRITISH COLUMBIA FERRY SERVICES INC.



Chetan Sondagar
Director, Technology Services



248 3rd Ave. West Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1L1
1-800-442-8664 | citywest@cwct.ca | www.citywest.ca

Christine Gagne
Senior Partner Programs Manager
Northern Development Initiative Trust
301-1268 Fifth Ave.
Prince George, BC
V2L 3L2

September 10, 2021

Dear Christine,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to request an extension for projects funded by the Economic Recovery Intake program. While we are aware that the deadline for project completion is October 31, 2021, a number of circumstances have arisen that has forced us to request an extension to October 31, 2022 for the following projects:

- 7115-85: Connecting Burns Lake
- 7201-85: Connecting Cortes Island
- 7304-85: Connecting Quadra Island
- 7313-85: Connecting Haida Gwaii South
- 7315-85: Connecting Bella Coola
- 7320-85: Connecting Haida Gwaii North
- 7331-85: Connecting Zeballos
- 7492-85: Connecting Hornby Island
- 7499-85: Connecting Denman Island
- 7528-85: Connecting Haida Gwaii-Tlell
- 7529-85: Connecting Haida Gwaii-Tow Hill

We are requesting these extensions for two primary reasons: delays arising from the permitting process; and delays arising from the supply chain.

Permitting delays

A number of our projects have had their start dates pushed back due to delays in the granting of permits. Many times, permitting agencies have reviewed our permit, then sent them back to us with questions and suggested revisions; when we return the revised permits to the agency, we are again

told to re-write the permit. We understand this reflects the nature of the permitting process, and the desire of agencies to ensure the correct information is included in each permit in a standardized manner. However, as we note below, this permitting process has pushed back our start dates.

Some examples of permit delays are below, along with the estimated duration of the delay. Because the engineering design and drafting process is a linear method, consistent hours of drafting and design time are required to complete each permit. One project delay or an additional request for a permit causes a ripple delay in the production line of other permits. Therefore, all projects will feel the effects.

And, since construction cannot begin until permitting is completed, the delays in permitting cause our construction timelines to be pushed back as well.

Cortes Island – 11-WEEK DELAY

s.13; s.16; s.17

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s.13; s.16; s.17

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Haida Gwaii projects – 11-WEEK DELAY

s.13; s.16; s.17

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Supply chain delays

Over the last year we have experienced multiple delays and long lead times for vendor orders. This includes but is not limited to the following equipment:

- Routers
- Switches
- Vehicles
- Modems
- GPON equipment
- Servers

While there are myriad reasons for such delays, two primary factors stand out:

1. A worldwide semiconductor shortage, which is expected to last until the third quarter of 2022. There have been semiconductor shortages in the past, but they have never lasted this long. Because we work in a technological industry, these shortages have a major impact on the production of our equipment.
2. A worldwide global shipping container shortage. At ports across the world there are a significant number of containers that are stacking up at cargo ports. This leads to equipment that will sit for months with no action. The only way to expedite these requests is to pay an exorbitant amount to skip the queue. In normal times, a container could cost \$5,000. Now, it's reaching in excess of \$50,000.

In pre-pandemic times, we would expect delivery of equipment within 1-2 months. In some cases, we are now being told that this equipment will not arrive until late-2022. Additionally, we have been told by various suppliers that we should start placing orders now for equipment we want in 2023.

At CityWest, we are committed to completing the projects for which we have received funding in as expedient a manner as possible. We also want to make sure that any project upholds the highest level of quality in all aspects of the build. Most importantly, we want to make sure our customers are provided with the best customer experience in everything we do – this is the vision that guides us, and it's the attitude we bring to planning and executing on our projects. For these reasons, we believe an extension of the deadlines to October 31, 2022 will ensure our customers receive excellent services without compromising on quality.

If you require any additional information, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely yours,



Stefan Woloszyn, CEO
CityWest

September 10, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Lytton Area Wireless Society would like to thank you for the opportunity to apply for the economic recovery grant program. Being awarded these grant funds will be an immense benefit for the town of Lytton and the affected First Nation Reserves in our efforts to restore critical communication and connectivity.

We would like to request an extension date for the completion of the project to December 31, 2022 due to the following reasons:

The town of Lytton is still in undergoing an environmental assessment after the fire and is working to structure the rebuild effort. We expect that this may take some time and will likely push construction into spring and summer of 2022. We are in active communication with the Village of Lytton who are very supportive of our rebuild plan, but also believe that construction will likely need to take place next spring.

We truly hope you are able to accommodate our request in this unusual and challenging time.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Richards". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert Richards
Vice President

Shaw)

September 10, 2021

Christine Gagne
Senior Partner Programs Manager
Northern Development Initiative Trust
1268 5 Ave, Prince George, BC V2L 3L2

Dear Ms. Gagne,

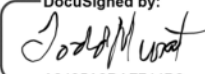
RE: Request for Extension
Connecting British Columbia Program, B.C. Economic Recovery
Pender, Mayne, Galiano Islands Microwave Capacity Upgrade

Shaw continues to appreciate our partnership with Northern Development in building broadband infrastructure to expediate access to high-speed internet service to rural and indigenous underserved communities. Over this past year, due to challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, Shaw is kindly requesting an extension beyond the October 31, 2021 deadline to upgrade internet service to residents on Pender, Mayne and Galiano islands. Shaw continues to encounter a number of delays primarily due to supply chain issues including the delivery of radio equipment and cabinets.

Shaw is seeking an extension of December 31, 2021 to complete the work and upgrade service.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience. We look forward to your feedback.

Best,

DocuSigned by:

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Todd Musat
Director, Critical Infrastructure and Standards

cc: Kiersten Enemark, Government Relations Director, B.C.



MINTO COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY
104 HAYLMORE AVE • GOLD BRIDGE • BC • V0K1P0
www.mintocomm.ca

September 21, 2021

Christine Gagne
Northern Development
Senior Partner Programs Manager

Re: Extension Request for Connecting British Columbia Program – Economic Recovery Intake
Northern Development Project Number 7265 85

Dear Christine,

Minto Communications is formally requesting an extension for the above noted project from October 31, 2021 to May 31, 2022.

We have an order for two propane generator units that currently can't be fulfilled because of supply chain delays. Although an order has been placed, our electrician has advised it will be some months until the generators will be available from the supplier and he is unable to give us more specific timing. We are currently scheduled to complete our power line construction by October 31, but, depending on BC Hydro scheduling and availability, may not have the connection energized. We expect the BC hydro connection to be energized no later than November 2021.

Accordingly, we request an extension to May 31, 2021 to allow sufficient time for the supply chain issue to be resolved and our remote radio sites to be snow free and accessible for the installation of the generator units. On a positive note, our network and equipment upgrades will complete by October 31, so our subscribers will have access to higher speeds and higher data limits as originally planned.

We look forward to your response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Marilyn Hampton

Marilyn Hampton, Treasurer/Secretary

DECISION NOTE

Advice to Deputy Minister

DATE: September 1, 2021

CLIFF#: 115794

ISSUE: 2021-2022 Digital Identities and Trust in Citizens' Services

BACKGROUND:

B.C. is a recognized leader in identity in Canada and is at the forefront of federal, provincial, territorial work towards Pan-Canadian implementation and adoption of trusted digital identities. The Ministry of Citizens' Services has shaped this work for over two decades (Appendix I: BC's Identity Journey).

The Government Chief Information Officer (GCIO) has the authority, under Chapter 12 of Core Policy, to set the digital identity management strategy, policy, procedures and standards. Chapter 12 also gives the GCIO the authority to identify where a corporate approach should be used in planning for shared services, new initiatives and procuring information and technology assets. Within these authorities the OCIO governs, develops and delivers related policies and services.

Since 2016, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has been exploring verifiable credentials through a series of proofs of concept with partners in banking, law and health. This work has developed and launched OrgBook BC, which enables the modernization work of BC Corporate Registries. Aligned with government's digital principles, the digital identities and trust work is open sourced and includes collaboration with other key Canadian and international innovators in digital trust. This approach allows the sharing of ideas, solutions and lessons, which minimizes duplication and accelerates progress.

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DISCUSSION:

In 2020, the OCIO and Service BC (SBC) recognized the increasing demand for trusted digital identities and the urgency added by the pandemic. A joint review was initiated to assess the DI&T landscape in B.C. The review and follow-up discussions found digital identity to be very active and dynamic across government. Key observations were that it is a complex landscape with complex interdependencies and no clear ownership. It was noted that there was a significant opportunity to harness the investments made to-date and build a cross-government commitment to working together towards a shared vision. Specific recommendations were:

- Governance: establish a governance structure, with defined roles and responsibilities.
- Terminology: build common lexicon of common terms.
- Integrated plan: develop an integrated roadmap that reflects active plans in the DI&T domain.
- Funding: assess funding model to support investment decisions and ensure DI&T has appropriate oversight and funding.
- Corporate policy framework: update corporate policy framework to ensure it is current and integrated.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13

s.12

s.13

RECOMMENDATION: s.12

s.12

(please circle)

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED

OPTION s.12



Shauna Brouwer
Deputy Minister

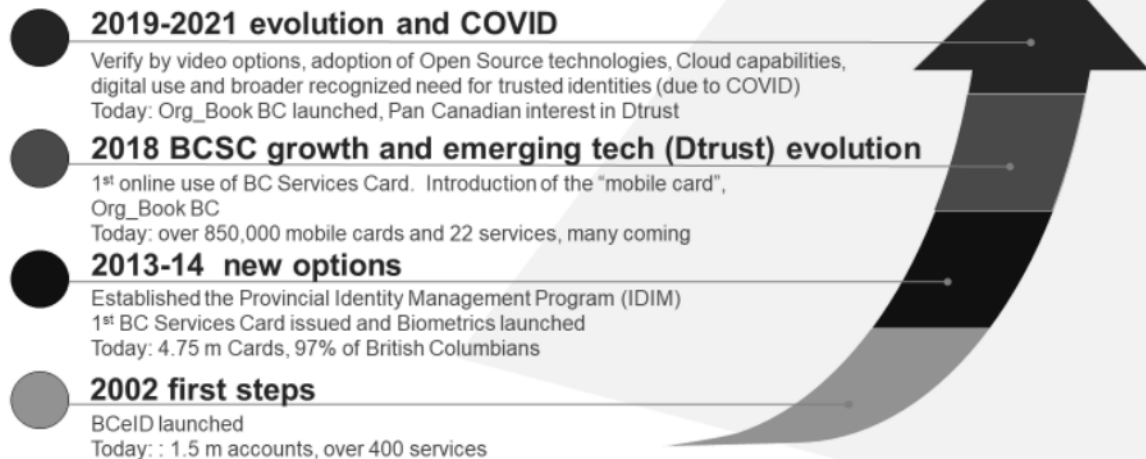
September 14, 2021

Date

Attachment: Appendix I – Summary of BC’s Identity Journey
Contact: Sophia Howse, 250-213-7855

Appendix I – Summary of BC's Identity Journey

BC's identity journey



The Ministry of Citizens' Services has supported the BC Government with the introduction of trusted identity systems for over two decades.

BC's first step into identity was the launch of BCeID in 2002. This is an electronic identity credential that enables individuals and business representatives to access multiple services. There are three distinct types:

- **Basic BCeID:** ^{s.13}
s.13
- **Business BCeID:** ^{s.13}
- **Personal BCeID:**

Today, we manage over 1,500,000 BCeID accounts, which can be used to access more than 400 online government services.

Recognizing that the increasing demand for easy access to online government services could only be met by a more modern identity solution, research started in 2007. The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizen Services (MTICS) conducted significant research into industry standards and trends. The BC Services Card was born out of this research.

The Provincial Identity Information Management (IDIM) Program was established in 2010, as part of the OCIO, to lead and shepherd the development and implementation of the BC Services Card. The first BC Services Cards were issued in 2013. IDIM was transitioned to Service BC in December 2017 and continues to evolve the BC Services Card service. In 2018, the BC Services Card mobile app was launched, allowing people to prove their identity online to access multiple government services. The uptake of the mobile card has grown enormously in the last few months, largely driven by the desire to access COVID test results and vaccination records. Today, over 900,000 British Columbians use their mobile BCSC to access 22 online services safely and with confidence.

The demand for digital identity and trust services has rapidly grown in the last twenty years and exponentially during the pandemic. Recent research by the Digital Investment Board noted that “today, technology underpins all aspects of government programs and services, and most people expect to access services digitally by default”. To meet these expectations, services must include complex, high value transactions that involve sensitive and personal data. This points to the need for trusted digital identities coupled with stringent privacy and security policies.

INFORMATION NOTE

Advice to Minister Beare

DATE: September 9, 2021

CLIFF: 115774

ISSUE: NextGen Telecommunications Service Procurement Environmental Scan

Background

On July 29, 2011, the Province entered a strategic relationship with TELUS and negotiated three separate agreements. The Telecom Deal consists of three agreements: Telecommunications Service Master Agreement (TSMA), the Strategic Relationship Agreement (SRA) and the Connecting British Columbia Agreement (CBCA). While the CBCA has fulfilled its obligations and has concluded, both the TSMA and STRA have been renewed for another two years.

CITZ prepared a future procurement business case, which included current deal lessons learned, evolving technology assessments, industry research, market engagements and the Buyers Groups' business objectives. In May 2021, the business case and procurement strategy were reviewed and approved by the Deputy Minister Council for Procurement of Strategic Contracts.

DISCUSSION:

CITZ collaborated across government to ensure that the NextGen Telecom Procurement was aligned with all relevant government policies. Results of the industry research and lessons learned identified that the NextGen deal focus should be on essential core telecom services as this would achieve the collective vision, align with procurement policies, and provide it the highest possible value.

Direct vendor engagement was undertaken last December through a Request for Information (RFI) to obtain their perspectives and insights on the future procurement. An RFI process is a common mechanism to engage with the marketplace prior to the start of a formal procurement. It is a non-binding engagement and does not commit the Province to any potential future contract(s). Vendors that responded included: Bell Canada, Cisco, Shaw, Telus and Zayo.

On September 9, 2021, TELUS sent a letter to Deputy Minister Brouwer^{s.17; s.21}
s.17; s.21

s.13; s.17

The Procurement Services Division is the focal point for vendor questions pertaining to the NextGen Telecom Procurement.

NEXT STEPS:

s.12; s.13; s.17

KEY MESSAGES:

- Telecommunications is important in the daily operations of government and the services we provide.
- Alignment to the Province's Strategic Sourcing Framework and Procurement Strategy will be a continued focus of any procurement as we seek the best long-term value for British Columbia.
- Ministry staff work across government, as well as with the health authorities, school districts and major Crowns, to ensure the best value is obtained from telecommunication services.
- Procurement is completed at the staff level, not Minister level.

Attachment(s): 1 – PPT Deck – Corporate Alignment
2 – 2021 September 8 TELUS Letter to DM Brouwer
3 – Province Analysis of TELUS' Sept 8, 2021 Letter to DM Brouwer

Contacts: James Shypitka, Senior Executive Director, Information Communications Technologies
Office of the Chief Information Officer, 250 415-0738

CJ Ritchie, Associate Deputy Minister & Government Chief Information Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer, 250 217-1683

OCIO - ICT

NextGen Telecom Procurement Corporate Alignment

Minister Round Table Briefing Sept 13, 2021



Ministry of
Citizens' Services

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13 ; s.17



September 8, 2021

Deputy Minister Brouwer
Ministry of Citizens' Services, Government of BC
Via email: shauna.brouwer@gov.bc.ca

TELUS proprietary and confidential | TELUS supplied

Dear Deputy Brouwer,

s.17; s.21

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.17 ; s.21

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Geske', with a stylized, flowing script.

David M. Geske
Director, Strategic Engagements
TELUS Public Sector & Enterprise
(403) 808-4010

email: david.geske@telus.com

cc: CJ Ritchie; Associate Deputy Minister and Government CIO
Teri Spaven; Assistant Deputy Minister, Procurement and Supply
James Shypitka; Senior Executive Director, Telecom Office
Malcolm Crow; Regional Vice-President, TELUS

The Province's Analysis of TELUS' September 8, 2021 Letter to DM Brouwer

On Sept 9, 2021, Deputy Minister Brouwer received a letter from TELUS^{s.17; s.21}
s.17; s.21

The Province's Analysis of TELUS' September 8, 2021 Letter to DM Brouwer

s.17; s.21

INFORMATION NOTE

Advice to Minister Beare

Date: September 29, 2021

CLIFF#: 115852

ISSUE: Risks associated with single-vendor versus multi-vendor telecommunication services procurement.

BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Citizens' Services (CITZ) is responsible for procuring telecommunication services on behalf of the Province, the health authorities and four major Crown corporations. These telecommunication services (voice, data and cellular) support over 245,000 users in 7500 locations and are vital for government to deliver services to citizens. The current 12-year contract expires July 2023. If a decision regarding the contract model is not reached by end of September 2021, the procurement process will not be completed before the July 2023 expiration date.

Recognizing the expertise available, CITZ collaborated with ministries and agencies across government throughout the development of the business case including:

- s.13; s.14
- Strategic Partnerships Office for support to ensure the procurement aligns to government's strategic sourcing framework, due diligence, and review processes.
- Procurement Services Branch for the development of the business case and the procurement options and to ensure alignment to the Province's broader procurement strategy objectives.
- Risk Management Branch to complete a comprehensive risk assessment of the procurement and the future contract(s).
- s.13; s.17
- OCIO Enterprise Services to ensure information security issues were being identified and addressed.

In addition, CITZ consolidated current deal lessons learned, evolving technology assessments, industry research, market surveys, estimates of future telecom costs, Canadian and international scans of telecommunication contracts, and the Buyers Groups' business objectives into the business case. The business case also included direct vendor perspectives and insights on the future procurement, which was obtained through a Request for Information (RFI).

The NextGen Project team sought and received endorsement of the business case and procurement recommendations from the ADMPR and Deputy Minister Council Procurement Strategic Contracts (DMCPSC) in May 2021.

s.12; s.13; s.17

DISCUSSION:

s.12; s.13; s.17

NEXT STEPS:

s.12; s.13; s.17

Contact: CJ Ritchie, Associate Deputy Minister, (250) 217-1683

Appendix 1: s.12; s.13; s.17

Appendix 2:

Appendix 3:

Appendix 4:

Appendix 5:

Attachment

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s.12 ; s.13 ; s.17