



**Meeting Date:** February 2, 2022

**Submitted by:** M. Di Lullo, CAO

**Report No:** CAO-4-2022

**Subject:** Ontario Connects – Bringing High-Speed Internet to Every Community

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Report CAO-4-2022, re: Ontario Connects – Bringing High-Speed Internet to Every Community be received for information.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide an information update on plans introduced by the Province to expand internet services to all residents in Ontario.

**Background:**

On January 18, 2022, the Minister of Infrastructure held an information session to highlight the Province’s plans to expand high-speed internet. High-speed internet has become an essential form of infrastructure and the people of Ontario expect access to fast and reliable broadband and cellular activities.

**Analysis:**

Appended to this report is a copy of the presentation that outlines the policy tools that will be utilized to provide and expand reliable high-speed internet. It is the Province’s intent to move ahead with this initiative so that every community has access to high-speed internet by the end of 2025.

The Municipality will work with the Provincial and County counterparts to bring high-speed internet to parts of Middlesex Centre that are underserved through this initiative.

**Financial Implications:**

N/A

**Strategic Plan:**

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Sustainable Infrastructure and Services

Working with the Province and County to provide reliable infrastructure services is important to establishing a community where people want to live and work. This initiative by the Province to invest in more reliable high-speed internet is important so that all Ontarian's have equal access to this important service.

**Attachments:**

Appendix – Ontario Connects: Bringing High-Speed Internet to Every Community