

July 16, 2021

Ontario Connects: Ontario's High-Speed Internet Plan

The Government of Ontario has committed nearly \$4 billion to connect every region in Ontario to reliable, high-speed internet by the end of 2025.

Program Objectives:

- Facilitate speed of delivery of high-speed internet services and 100% coverage at a minimum service level of 50/10 Mbps for approximately 700,000 unserved or underserved homes by the end of 2025
- Leverage existing utility infrastructure and rights of way to reduce required subsidies and compress delivery timelines
- Attract broad market participation of quality counterparties that is inclusive of smaller and local players
- Ensuring infrastructure lasts and can be upgraded as needed

Infrastructure Ontario is launching an innovative procurement process to support accelerated broadband expansion in the Province. This process will enable Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to bid for provincial subsidies through a series of reverse auction events, with winning bids meeting the defined coverage and deployment requirements at the most reasonable price.

Phase	Objective
Engagement	Promote market participation and knowledge and foster transparency regarding the end-to-end Ontario Connects: Ontario's High Speed Internet Plan process.
Procurement	Ensure the implementation of a transparent and competitive process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualify participants by delivery capability at the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) stage • Assess participants by capacity to deliver at the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage • Request bids from qualified participants through a reverse auction process
Contracting	Execute fair and deliverable contractual agreements to enable successful implementation of broadband projects
Delivery	Deliver access to high-speed internet to all households by December 2025 to help build a better, more connected Ontario.
Operations	Operate and maintain the digital infrastructure to secure sustainable and reliable high-speed internet for future generations

Additional details about the competitive process will be provided to prospective participants during an upcoming webinar for ISPs taking place during the week of July 26, 2021. Interested ISPs are encouraged to register by emailing: HighSpeedInternetInfo@InfrastructureOntario.ca

Disponible en français