

APPENDIX A - Category Specific Supplement

CONNECTIVITY AND BROADBAND

I. Objectives

To invest in broadband infrastructure that contributes to economic growth, a clean environment and stronger communities.

II. Subcategories

- High-speed backbone
- Point of presence
- Local distribution within communities
- Satellite capacity

Notes:

- *In Canada, broadband service refers to download speeds of 1.5 Mbps or greater. In Telecom Regulatory Policy 2011-291, the CRTC established a universal broadband Internet access target download speed of 5 Mbps.*

III. Outcomes and Benefits

The project must demonstrate how it provides benefits to British Columbians in support of one or more of the following outcomes:

- Increasing in geographical area, to account for industrial/resource development investments, with access to broadband speeds of 1.5 Mbps or higher, contributing to improved economic development in remote areas; or
- Increasing in number of British Columbians with access to broadband speeds of 1.5 Mbps or higher, contributing to improving the quality, accessibility and effectiveness of public services.

IV. Project Specific Criteria

- Must demonstrate the economic advantages and the broader public benefits of the project.
- Uses technological solutions that are appropriate, reasonable and available.
- Must promote competitiveness by conducting a commercially and technologically neutral Request for Proposal.
- Must provide for third party open access.
- Must be based on a practical needs assessment and is scalable to realistically meet future needs.