

March 23, 2026

**Subject: Request for Full Release of Broadband-Related NDA in the Interest of Transparency**

Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to formally request that Council take the necessary steps to secure and release, in its entirety, the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) associated with the broadband initiative for which \$2.4 million in taxpayer funds were expended. I also respectfully request that this matter be placed on the next Council agenda for discussion.

This request is made in the interest of transparency and maintaining public trust within our community. Residents deserve a clear and complete understanding of how significant public funds were sourced, allocated, and ultimately used.

As Council is aware, I have raised ongoing concerns regarding the use, allocation, and reporting of these funds, including whether expenditures aligned with Council approvals and with the expectations communicated to taxpayers at the time decisions were made. Of particular concern is that these funds were sourced in a manner not expressly authorized by Council, which further underscores the need for full transparency on this project.

When this initiative progressed to a stage where elected officials were actively promoting the project as ultimately salespeople, I was advised that the purpose of the NDA was to protect commercially sensitive information, specifically the rates being offered, due to competition. While that rationale may have existed at the time, those rates and the nature of the project are no longer confidential in any meaningful sense. The original justification for maintaining secrecy no longer appears to apply.

Furthermore, it is my understanding that the NDA outlines the level of community uptake required for the broadband project to become a revenue-generating asset for the municipality. There is no clear reason for this information to remain confidential. In fact, making this information public could serve as a valuable tool to promote the service, encourage adoption, and help improve the financial position that this project has placed our community in.

While NDAs can serve legitimate commercial purposes, they should not be used to limit transparency around the use of public funds. In this case, the continued withholding of the agreement only contributes to uncertainty and erodes public confidence.

I would also note that I have been in contact with Alberta Broadband Networks (Ken Spangler) and Canadian Fiber Optics (Wade Bloomer), and they are aware that this request is being brought forward on behalf of ratepayers seeking greater transparency.

At its core, this is a simple matter: if there is nothing to hide, then all parties should be willing to support the full release of the agreement.

Transparency strengthens a municipality and reinforces public trust. Full disclosure in this matter is both reasonable and necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

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/Shawn Jacula