



RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 20

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Moved by:

Seconded by:

WHEREAS reliable, high-speed internet access is essential infrastructure that supports economic development, housing construction, healthcare, education, municipal operations, and overall community well-being;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has recognized the importance of digital infrastructure through the *Accelerating Access to Broadband for Ontario Act, 2021*, which seeks to expand broadband access to all Ontarians, particularly in underserved and rural communities;

AND WHEREAS access to affordable high-speed internet is a necessary precondition to achieving provincial and federal housing, economic development, and population growth targets;

AND WHEREAS Bell Canada currently offers dedicated fibre internet services at the following indicative rates under a five (5) year term within a regulated area: 100 Mbps / 100 Mbps \$1,010 per month, 500 Mbps / 500 Mbps \$3,090 per month and 1 Gbps / 1 Gbps \$3,250 per month.

AND WHEREAS such pricing structures place dedicated fibre services beyond the financial reach of many municipalities, small businesses, housing developments, non-profit organizations, and community facilities;

AND WHEREAS unaffordable broadband infrastructure costs undermine the intent of provincial and federal legislation aimed at universal access to high-speed internet, including federal programs administered by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) and regulatory oversight by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC);

AND WHEREAS affordable, high-speed internet access is essential infrastructure and a foundational requirement for inclusive growth, housing delivery, and community resilience and municipalities are required to plan for growth, housing, and economic competitiveness, yet have no say in telecommunications pricing and market structures;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the CRTC to examine the affordability of dedicated fibre pricing and its impact on municipal infrastructure, housing development, and equitable internet access;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the Government of Ontario to work with telecommunications providers to ensure that broadband infrastructure costs do not impede the objectives of the *Accelerating Access to Broadband for Ontario Act, 2021* and the *Building Faster Homes and More Choice Act, 2022*;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon Bell Canada to review and revise its dedicated fibre pricing models to ensure they are affordable, transparent, and scaled appropriately for municipalities, community institutions, and local development projects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the Government of Canada, including ISED, to strengthen affordability requirements tied to federal broadband funding and universal access programs;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada Mark Carney, the Honourable Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Honourable Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, Bell Canada, the CRTC, FONOM, AMO, NOMA, and all Ontario municipalities through AMCTO.

Carried ☒ Defeated ☐ Deferred ☐

Sam Dunnett, Mayor

Recorded Vote Called by: _____

Recorded Vote

Member of Council	Yea	Nay	Absent
Bishop, Bill			
Hetherington, John			
Hind, Jon			
Kneller, Brad			
Mayor: Dunnett, Sam			