

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday December 20, 2004

Media Contact:

Maggie Matear

Director of Operations, NEOnet

705.360.1353 ext. 1

mmatear@neonet.on.ca

Province Gives \$1M for High-Speed

KAPUSKASING, ON. - The Ontario government continues to support the broadband Internet expansion project in northern Ontario. Industry Canada agreed to contribute another \$1.9 million to the cause, along with the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, (NOHFC) who will be contributing an additional \$1.06 million.

“It’s great to see support from our provincial government,” said Christy Marinig, NEOnet chair. “Without their support for such developmental projects, the north would be left to struggle.”

Community champion, NorthernTel has also contributed \$800 thousand to the cause. Together with NEOnet and the support of northern municipalities, they will establish broadband Internet service in 22 communities. The 22 communities that will benefit from the \$3.8 million project are:

Larder Lake	Halbourg
Virginiatown	Val Cote
Elk Lake	Mattice
Ramore	Jogues
Clear Lake (north of Kapuskasing)	Hoyle
Val Gagne	Holtyre
Matachewan	Connaught
Shillington Remote	Barber’s Bay
Anthony (north of Matheson)	Dawson Point (near Dymond)
Porquis Junction	Gatineau (north of Timmins)
Monteith	Swastika

The broadband Internet expansion will facilitate the development of new services such as telehealth, distance education, and e-commerce.