

News Release



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Hi-Speed Funding for Public Libraries Extended

TIMMINS, ON. – Community-based networks NEOnet and ADnet announced that funding for the Library Connectivity Project (LCP) has been extended. The Ontario Library Services and the Ministry of Culture will continue funding high speed internet in 35 Northern Ontario public libraries until the end of December 2005.

“This means great things for community development,” says Christy Marinig, NEOnet Chair. “Access to the Internet has become a necessity in education and research initiatives. The Library Connectivity Project has helped libraries provide this service to the public without having to incur the heavy costs involved.” For many communities, high speed internet is still only available in the libraries.

The original purpose of the LCP was to provide high speed Internet connectivity to 19 public library locations throughout the Algoma District. The initial success of the project resulted in the project being expanded to include 16 libraries in the NEOnet operating area as well. The ADnet portion of the project was completed in November 2002, while the NEOnet portion was completed in May 2003. The Ontario Library Services and the Ministry of Culture have been paying the monthly charges since then.