

MEDIA RELEASE

October 25, 2006 – For Immediate Release

22 Northeastern Ontario Communities to Get “Wired”

Timmins, Ontario – On October 25, 2006 – The communities of Elk Lake and Matachewan have recently joined 20 other northeastern Ontario communities which have had their information and communications technology infrastructure upgraded as part of a \$3.9 million dollar broadband expansion project. In all 22 communities are included in the Cochrane District Broadband Expansion project managed by NEOnet and funded by Industry Canada, NOHFC and private sector partner NorthernTel.

The 22 communities to get wired through the Cochrane District Broadband Expansion Project include:

Swastika	Monteith
Larder Lake	Holtyre
Virginiatown	Anthony
Connaught	Shillington
Barbers Bay	Val Gagné
Hoyle	Mattice
Ramore	Dawson Point
Hallebourg	unserved area of Kapuskasing
Val Cote	unserved area in western part of Timmins
Porquis Junction	Matachewan
Elk Lake	Jogues

“The Cochrane District Broadband Expansion project is Phase 1 of our overall broadband expansion initiative, as there are a number of communities in our region which will remain unserved at the completion of this project,” stated Michel Desjardins – NEOnet’s Vice-Chair. “NEOnet has recently selected a private sector partner and submitted funding proposals to both the provincial and federal governments for phase two of the project which will address high-speed internet access issues faced by communities in the Gogama-Foleyet area as well as in Timiskaming District” Desjardins continued.

If you are interested in learning more about our Broadband initiatives in Northeastern Ontario you can visit us at www.neonet.on.ca.

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