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Dear Mr. Lapham:

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Brian Gregg and I am a Land Use Consultant representing TELUS. I am reaching out today as TELUS has identified an exciting opportunity to expand wireless cellular coverage to the Capital Regional District and would like to make an application to the federal government's Universal Broadband Fund for funding to connect your community to the TELUS Wireless network. This would include the building, operation and long-term maintenance of the infrastructure. This investment will ensure that the network can withstand the demand of new technologies which will be realized over future generations.

Improving connectivity within communities enables residents to engage in numerous aspects of the digital economy, including those residents from underrepresented groups. Internet has become an essential service and provides access for residents to numerous benefits such as tele-health, distance learning, and telework. Today, reliable internet access has become a virtual requirement for commercial and industrial businesses, whether small or large, to operate and develop.

Access to reliable internet also supports social services within communities and enables valuable avenues to serve residents. The internet has made connecting key social service institutions with the residents who use those institutions much easier. Furthermore, this access, expedited through the Universal Broadband Fund, will contribute to a multitude of government strategies that have become easiest to access via the internet.

The opportunity for the Capital Regional District to participate in this project comes at **no cost to your regional district**. Assuming we are successful in our application, funds to build the network would be committed by TELUS and the Government of Canada.

TELUS is seeking support from the Capital Regional District in the form of a letter of support (attached), by **February 19, 2021**. We would be happy to discuss further with you over the phone at your convenience.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to reach out at 778-870-1388.

Respectfully,

Brian Gregg
Agent for TELUS