

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 24, 2020

## **Township of Oro-Medonte Internet Connectivity Survey**

Oro-Medonte Council identified the issue of internet expansion as a priority within both its Corporate Strategic Plan and Economic Development Strategy. As a result, the Township has struck an Internet Connectivity Task Force to address challenges with internet service and connectivity within the community. The purpose of the Task Force is to identify broadband expansion opportunities, explore mechanisms and best practices of how to facilitate high-speed internet expansion, create awareness and continue to advocate for residents and businesses, collect and analyze community data, connect with Internet Service providers, and apply for grant opportunities.

In an effort to collect valuable information and data regarding internet service and connectivity, the Task Force and Township staff have developed a survey for all Oro-Medonte residents and business owners. To determine and evaluate internet connectivity speed, there is an internet performance test embedded within the survey that will test all home and business connections, providing important data to the Township.

The Township anticipates seeking support through various funding agencies pertaining to potential service improvements; data collected though the survey will form a crucial component of grant applications.

Mayor Harry Hughes commented that "the municipality is aggressively advocating on behalf of Oro-Medonte residents and business owners to expand high speed internet. Considering the number of residents working from home and students needing access to resources for school due to COVID-19, the importance of supporting local businesses, and ensuring Oro-Medonte residents are able to stay virtually connected with family and friends, there is an accelerated need for reliable internet service throughout the Township. The Township needs assistance from residents and business owners to better identify and determine gaps in service – please provide your feedback by completing the Township survey."

All residents and business owners in Oro-Medonte are encouraged to complete the survey by **August 7, 2020**. Your participation is appreciated and will provide vital feedback.

For additional information and to complete the survey, please visit <u>oro-medonte.ca/connectoromedonte.</u>

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## For media requiring additional information, please contact:

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