

Execulink Telecom Breaks Ground in Kettle and Stony Point First Nation with SWIFT Funding

(Woodstock, ON) August 14, 2020 – Today, proudly local telecom provider <u>Execulink Telecom</u> has announced it is breaking ground on its Fibre to the Home project in Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. In January of this year, Execulink Telecom received funding from the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Initiative to deploy their high-speed Fibre optics network to underserviced rural communities.

"Providing access to fast and reliable Internet in underserviced rural communities within Southwestern Ontario has been an ongoing challenge," said Ian Stevens, President and CEO of Execulink Telecom. "Unpredictable access to dependable Internet has negative impacts on work, education, connectivity, and entertainment. It's time that those who call Kettle Point home receive the awesome experience they deserve."

"Working in cooperation with many partners has brought us new relationships and new technology," says Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point Chief Jason Henry. "As a result, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation will continue to grow and foster the resources in the region and beyond."

Fibre to the Home is the delivery of a communications signal over optical fibre. In comparison with other methods of delivery, Fibre's underground infrastructure is unaffected by weather and allows for reliable Internet, TV, and Phone services, with some of the fastest Internet speeds in Ontario. With Fibre technology, homes and businesses will have access to crystal-clear TV, reliable Home Phone solutions, and blazing-fast Internet speeds up to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps).

"SWIFT is pleased to partner with Execulink Telecom to provide many more residents with access to high-speed broadband services in Lambton County and Kettle & Stony Point First Nation," says Barry Field, Executive Director of SWIFT. "The newly announced Fibre to the Home projects will provide residents with exceptionally fast internet speeds and deliver a future-proof solution to address the evergrowing demands of our rapidly changing digital world."

About Execulink Telecom

In operation since 1904, Execulink Telecom has evolved from a small independent local telephone company into one of the leading telecommunications providers in Ontario. Through innovation and forward-thinking, the telecom provider has cultivated what began as local telephony offerings to provide a full-scale suite of telecommunications services including data, internet, television, mobility, and advanced voice features. These services are now available to all levels of industry, encompassing 50,000 business, enterprise, government, and residential customers.



About the SWIFT Initiative

Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) is a non-profit regional broadband project initiated by the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to subsidize the construction of high-speed broadband networks across Southwestern Ontario, Caledon and the Niagara Region.

The project was approved for funding up to \$127.4 million under the New Building Canada Fund - Small Communities Fund (NBCF-SCF), a joint federal and provincial infrastructure funding program, and leverages additional funding from municipal partners and private sector investors to bring the total project investment to \$209 million to improve access to broadband services across the region.

For more information about SWIFT, please visit www.swiftruralbroadband.ca.

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