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## Execulink Telecom to Bring Fibre to South-West Oxford

**(Woodstock, ON) December 4, 2023** – Execulink Telecom is set to revolutionize South-West Oxford's connectivity landscape, unveiling plans to extend their Fibre Internet services to underserved homes and businesses. Commencing construction in late 2023 and targeting installations by spring 2024 with over 700 homes passed, this milestone initiative will soon provide customers with high-speed Internet, crystal clear TV, and reliable Home Phone solutions, marking a significant leap forward in their digital connectivity experience.

This almost \$14 million project is made possible thanks to more than \$7.6 million in combined funding from the Government of Canada's Universal Broadband Fund (UBF), and the Government of Ontario, with additional funding from the Township of South-West Oxford, and infrastructure investment by Execulink.

Ian Stevens, President and CEO of Execulink Telecom says, "We are proud to have serviced South-West Oxford as an Internet Service Provider for over 25 years. We are excited about this project because it brings Fibre to under serviced rural areas," said Stevens. "Our goal is to bring residents and business owners the superior telecom experience they deserve and improve the day-to-day lives of the local growing community with our Fibre services."

David Mayberry, Mayor of South-West Oxford states, "Building on the great work that Execulink has done connecting all of our villages and hamlets with high speed fiber optic broadband through the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project, we now look forward to the rest of the rural areas in South West Oxford having the same access to fast and reliable service. We are pleased to partner with upper levels of government and Execulink to bring exceptional Internet service to our whole community through the Universal Broadband Fund".

"Reliable, affordable access to high-speed Internet isn't a luxury - it's a necessity", says the Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. "Investments like this help communities grow their economies, create jobs, improve access to health care, and keep us connected to our loved ones. That's why the federal government has committed to connecting 98% of Canadians to high-speed Internet by 2026 and 100% by 2030."

The Ontario government has made it a priority to bring access to reliable high-speed internet to every community across the province by the end of 2025," said the Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario's Minister of Infrastructure. "By expanding access to more homes and businesses in South-West Oxford, we are ensuring that everyone can work and learn online, participate in the agriculture sector, and connect with their loved ones."

Fibre is the premium delivery method for Internet Services. In comparison with other methods of delivery, Fibre's underground infrastructure is unaffected by weather and allows for reliable TV and Phone services, with some of the fastest Internet speeds in Ontario. Customers can look forward to enjoying blazing-fast Internet speeds up to 1 Gbps.

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Execulink Telecom has been servicing the community for over 25 years and looks forward to bringing Fibre to more local Ontario communities in the future. Residents are encouraged to call 1-866-765-2282 to sign up. For more information, please visit fibre.execulink.ca.

## **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, we cultivated our local telephony offerings to provide a fullscale 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.

The <u>Universal Broadband Fund</u> is a \$3.225 billion investment by the Government of Canada designed to help provide high-speed Internet access to 98% of Canadians by 2026 and achieve the national target of 100% access by 2030.

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