



## **Site Selection/Justification Report – Wireless Communications Site**

**Prepared for: Municipality of Trent Lakes**

**Rogers Site: C8593 White Lake Rd @ White Lake**

**Site Address: White Lake Rd., 550m south of Fire Rte 345**

## **Introduction**

Like many areas of the province, your community is experiencing a growing demand for wireless services. As people rely more on wireless devices such as smartphones, tablets and laptops for business and personal use, network improvements are required to ensure high quality voice and data services are available.

This document outlines the site selection process in accordance with the requirements of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's (ISED) Spectrum Management and Telecommunications Policy, CPC-2-0-03, Issue 6 (CPC) updated July, 2022 and provides a description of the system to be installed on White Lake Rd., 550m south of Fire Rte 345.

Telecommunications is a powerful economic enabler that promotes home occupations, teleworking, telecommuting and improved community networking and information dissemination. This site is part of the EORN Cell Gap Project.

## **Background and Coverage Requirement**

A wireless telecommunications facility is a puzzle piece in a very complex radio network, whether that site is situated in an urban, suburban or rural setting. Customer demand and sound engineering principles direct where sites are required to be located. As people rely more on wireless devices such as smartphones, tablets and laptops for business and personal use, network improvements are required to ensure high quality voice and data services are available. In order for a wireless network to be reliable, an operator must provide "seamless" coverage so that gaps in the network are avoided. Gaps create dropped calls and overall poor service to customers. Rogers is committed and mandated by its license to ensure the best coverage and service to the public and private sectors.

The proposed site will achieve the necessary engineering coverage objectives for our network. The location will provide much relied upon communication services in the area such as EMS Response, Police and Fire; improved wireless signal quality for the local residents, those traveling along the major roads, as well provide local subscribers with wireless network coverage and capacity for products and services such as iPhones, Smartphones, Tablets and wireless internet through the Rogers Rocket Stick technology in the surrounding area.

## **Rationale for New Telecommunication Infrastructure**

In identifying a potential new tower location and design, Rogers examined the surrounding area, assessed the visibility of the structure and considered a possible structure design. Rogers evaluated the best location for a new facility using the following criteria:

### **a) Technical Requirements**

The performance of a wireless network is dependent on the geographical location of its equipment, height of its antennas, line-of-sight requirement, the demand customers place on the network, as well as proximity to our users.

Please see below for an aerial outlining the site location (Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Aerial of the proposed location.



**b) Coverage Objectives**

Rogers' Network Planning and Engineering departments have determined that the placement of this site will provide a dramatic improvement in service for the area and will meet the coverage objectives.

**c) Evaluation of Existing Structures**

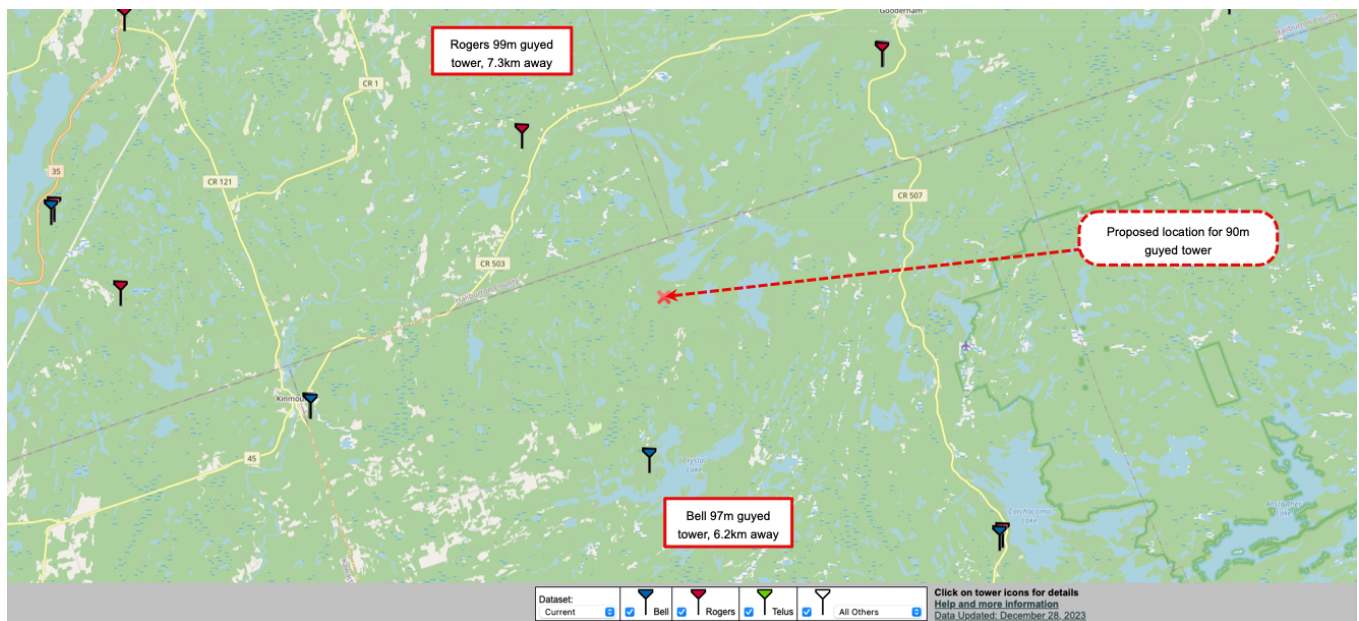
When a part of a network requires improvement, the first step is to evaluate existing structures that are located within the specific geographical area offering the required height and that may be available to support new equipment or to use for co-location.



During the site selection process for this proposed installation, Rogers determined that no other existing infrastructure opportunity was available in our target area. The closest structure is a 97m Bell tower 6.2km away and it is too far to improve service in the target area.

The map below (Figure 2) shows the proposed location in relation to the other existing structures assessed.

Figure 2 – Existing structures map



#### d) Land-Use Considerations

Rogers' site selection process is a balanced exercise that must meet Rogers' network coverage objectives, respect local land-use constraints, listen to community concerns, while at the same time reflecting Rogers obligation to its customers to provide a high quality of service.

From a technical standpoint, the proposed site location is within the search radius and will provide optimal coverage to the desired area as part of the EORN Cell Gap Project. The tower structure will be using only a small fraction of the large lot. Access to the site will be from the existing entrance to the property from White Lake Rd. and will not disturb the land-owner's current use of the property or affect community traffic flow. The proposed site will be set-back from White Lake Rd. by 49m.

#### Proposed Facility Location and Site Details

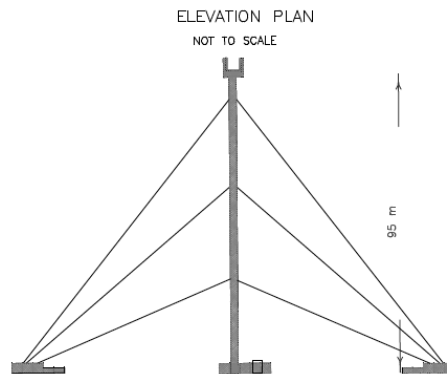
The proposed site is a 95m guyed tower installation and is proposed at the following coordinates: 44.814919-78.487875.



All efforts have been made to minimize the number of cellular base station locations required throughout the targeted area and yet allow for a network design which can adequately provide wireless voice and data service to our existing and new customer base.

Please also refer to the following page for a sample of the installation for your reference (Figure 3). An additional package of photo simulations is provided with this report. The viewscales simulate the view of the proposed installation from different locations. The process of simulating the proposed facility into the existing conditions of the viewscales was done by superimposing an image of the proposed structure on the photographs taken for those viewscales.

Figure 3 – Sample image of proposed installation



## Site Selection

Rogers strives to be sympathetic to the surrounding land-use features and takes all reasonable steps required by local land use authority to mitigate concerns with respect to planning and environmental matters. It is important to note that the selection of a site for a telecommunication antenna support structure does not occur randomly.

Among the factors considered are:

1. expected usage patterns of service and proximity to users
2. local topography and building types
3. interaction with existing and future sites
4. line of sight requirements for high quality communications
5. opportunities to use existing structures
6. availability of a willing property owner
7. the industry's commitment to high service standards and customer satisfaction.

The following criteria helped form the basis of the proposed 95m guyed tower on White Lake Rd.:

- The proposed site location is 49m from White Lake Rd. on a treed property with significant setbacks from other residential and waterfront properties.

- The design selected for this proposal is appropriate considering the area context and will best achieve our objectives, as well as provide for future co-location opportunities of other wireless service providers in an attempt to reduce the number of structures in the area.
- Access to the property for construction and maintenance purposes will be via existing access to the property to minimize any disturbance to the property's current use.
- The installation will have no impact on the watershed or the wells, water quality or any water systems. No chemicals, pesticides or herbicides that could potentially have an adverse effect on the water systems will be contained on our structure or the associated walk-in radio equipment cabinet.
- During construction, precautions will be taken to minimize any disruption to the current use of the site and to the surrounding residents. Once site is in-service, there will be no noise associated with the daily operation of the installation.

The site will occupy a compound area of 9.5m x 7.6m, surrounded by 2.4m-high chain link security fence. The compound will also contain a walk-in equipment cabinet (WIC) containing radio equipment, backup battery power, propane generator and storage tank, maintenance tools, manuals and a first aid kit. The installation is equipped with a silent alarm system.

The site is designed to provide LTE 700/2100 MHz, ESS 600 LTE & 5G NR services. It will also accommodate 3-sectored 5G 3.5 GHz and future services.

Rogers considers this location and design ideal to provide superior coverage levels and service to Rogers' customers and meet the objectives of the EORN Cell Gap Project.

### **Municipal and Public Notification**

Rogers has a strong history of consultation with municipalities and understands the importance of land-use protocols and transparency in consultation.

As the provisions of the *Ontario Planning Act* and other municipal by-laws and regulations do not apply to federal undertakings, wireless communication facilities are not required to obtain municipal permits. However, Section 4.1 of the CPC, states that the concerns and suggestions expressed by land-use authorities are important elements to be considered by proponents when installing or modifying antenna systems. ISED requires that consultation be undertaken with the appropriate land-use authorities to ensure those authorities are aware of significant structures within their boundaries and so that local land-use issues can be raised, while respecting the federal government's jurisdiction in the siting and operation of wireless voice and data systems.

The Municipality of Trent Lakes has developed its own protocol (Policy 5.46, October 2023) for establishing telecommunication facilities in the Municipality, and Rogers will be following that Protocol.

The protocol outlines the land-use consultation process relevant to evaluating wireless communication installation proposals. In accordance with this policy, proponents must provide a notification package to the local public within a radius of three times the height of the tower. A notice will also be provided

to the Municipality of Trent Lakes, any Public Bodies and/or Technical Agencies that the Municipality identifies, and the ISED regional office.

### **Federal Requirements**

In addition to the requirements for consultation with municipal authorities and the public, Rogers must also fulfill other important obligations, including the following:

### **Environmental Standards**

ISED requires that the installation and modification of antenna systems be done in a manner that complies with appropriate environmental legislation, including the Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, c. 28, s. 1).<sup>1</sup>

Rogers attests that the radio antenna system described in this notification does not qualify as a Designated Project under the Impact Assessment Act and is excluded from environmental assessment under the Impact Assessment Act.

### **Transport Canada's Aeronautical Obstruction Marking Requirements**

Aerodrome safety is under the exclusive jurisdiction of NAV Canada and Transport Canada. An important obligation of Rogers' installations is to comply with Transport Canada / NAV CANADA aeronautical safety requirements. Transport Canada performs an assessment of the proposal with respect to the potential hazard to air navigation and Rogers has submitted the required applications. Rogers expects that lighting will be required.

Rogers Communications Inc. attests that the radio antenna system described in this notification package will comply with Transport Canada / NAV Canada aeronautical safety requirements. For additional detailed information, please consult Transport Canada<sup>2</sup>.

### **Health Canada's Safety Code 6 Compliance**

Health Canada is responsible for research and investigation to determine and promulgate the health protection limits for Exposure to the RF electromagnetic energy. Accordingly, Health Canada has developed a guideline entitled "Limits of Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Field in the Frequency Range from 3kHz to 300 GHz – Safety Code 6".

The exposure limits specified in Safety Code 6 were established from the results of hundreds of studies over the past several decades where the effects of RF energy on biological organisms were examined. Radiocommunication, including technical aspects related to broadcasting, is under

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-2.75/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/acts-regulations/list-regulations/canadian-aviation-regulations-sor-96-433/standards/standard-621-obstruction-marking-lighting-canadian-aviation-regulations-cars>



responsibility of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), which has the power to establish standards, rules, policies and procedures. ISED, under this authority, has adopted Safety Code 6 for the protection of the general public. As such, ISED requires all proponents and operators to ensure that their installations and apparatus comply with the Safety Code 6 at all times.

Rogers Communications Inc. attests that the radio antenna system described in this notification package will at all times comply with Health Canada's Safety Code 6 limits, as may be amended from time to time, for the protection of the general public including any combined effects of additional carrier co-locations and nearby installations within the local radio environment.

More information in the area of RF exposure and health is available on the Health Canada's website under Environmental and Workplace Health<sup>3</sup> and Safety Code Health Canada's Radiofrequency Exposure Guidelines<sup>4</sup>.

### **Engineering Practices**

Rogers attests that the radio antenna system as proposed for this site will be constructed in compliance with the National Building Code and The Canadian Standard Association and comply with good engineering practices including structural adequacy.

### **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Spectrum Management (ISED)**

Please be advised that the approval of this site and its design is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of Canada through ISED. For more information on ISED's public consultation guidelines including CPC-2-0-03<sup>5</sup> contact your local ISED office at [spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca](mailto:spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca) or at the address on the following page.

#### **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Spectrum Management**

Eastern Ontario District Office

2 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6A 1Y3

Telephone: 1-855-465-6307

Fax: 705-941-4607

Email: [spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca](mailto:spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca)

Web: [https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/h\\_sf11435.html](https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/h_sf11435.html)

---

<sup>3</sup><http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/radiation/cons/stations/index-eng.php>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/radiation/safety-code-6-health-canada-radiofrequency-exposure-guidelines-environmental-workplace-health-health-canada.html>

<sup>5</sup><http://www.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/sf08777e.html>

General information relating to antenna systems is available on ISED's Spectrum Management and Telecommunications website<sup>6</sup>.

### **Public consultation obligations**

Rogers Communications Inc. is committed to effective public consultation. The public will be invited to provide comments to Rogers about this proposal by mail, electronic mail or phone.

ISED's rules contain requirements for timely response to all questions, comments or concerns. We will acknowledge receipt of all communication within **14 days** and will provide a formal response to the Municipality and those members of the public who communicate to Rogers, within **60 days**. The members of the public who communicated with Rogers will then have **21 days** to review and reply to Rogers as a final response.

### **Proponent's Contact Information - Rogers Communications Inc.**

Eric Belchamber, Wireless Site Specialist  
Eric Belchamber & Associates  
337 Autumnfield St., Kanata, ON, K2M 0J6  
Telephone: (613) 220-5970 Email: eric.belchamber@rogers.com

### **Conclusion**

Reliable wireless communication services are a key element of economic development across Canada. It facilitates the growth of local economies by providing easy access to information, and connectivity for residents and businesses alike.

The infrastructure proposed is suitable for the development over the long term and protects public health and safety and is a powerful economic enabler.

In response to this growing demand for wireless services, Rogers has worked to find the most suitable location for a new telecommunications structure in efforts to provide improved wireless services in the area to its residents, businesses and the traveling public.

In addition to meeting consumer needs, technological upgrades are also critical to ensuring the accessibility of emergency services such as fire, police and ambulance. Wireless communications products and services, used daily by police, EMS, firefighters and other first responders, are an integral part of Canada's safety infrastructure.

---

<sup>6</sup><http://www.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/home>

Rogers feels that the proposed site is well located to provide improved wireless voice and data services in the targeted area. The proposed location is also situated and designed to have minimal impact on surrounding land uses.

Rogers looks forward to working with the Municipality of Trent Lakes to provide improved wireless services to the community.

Should you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact me via email at [eric.belchamber@rogers.com](mailto:eric.belchamber@rogers.com), or via phone at (613) 220-5970.

Sincerely,

Eric Belchamber

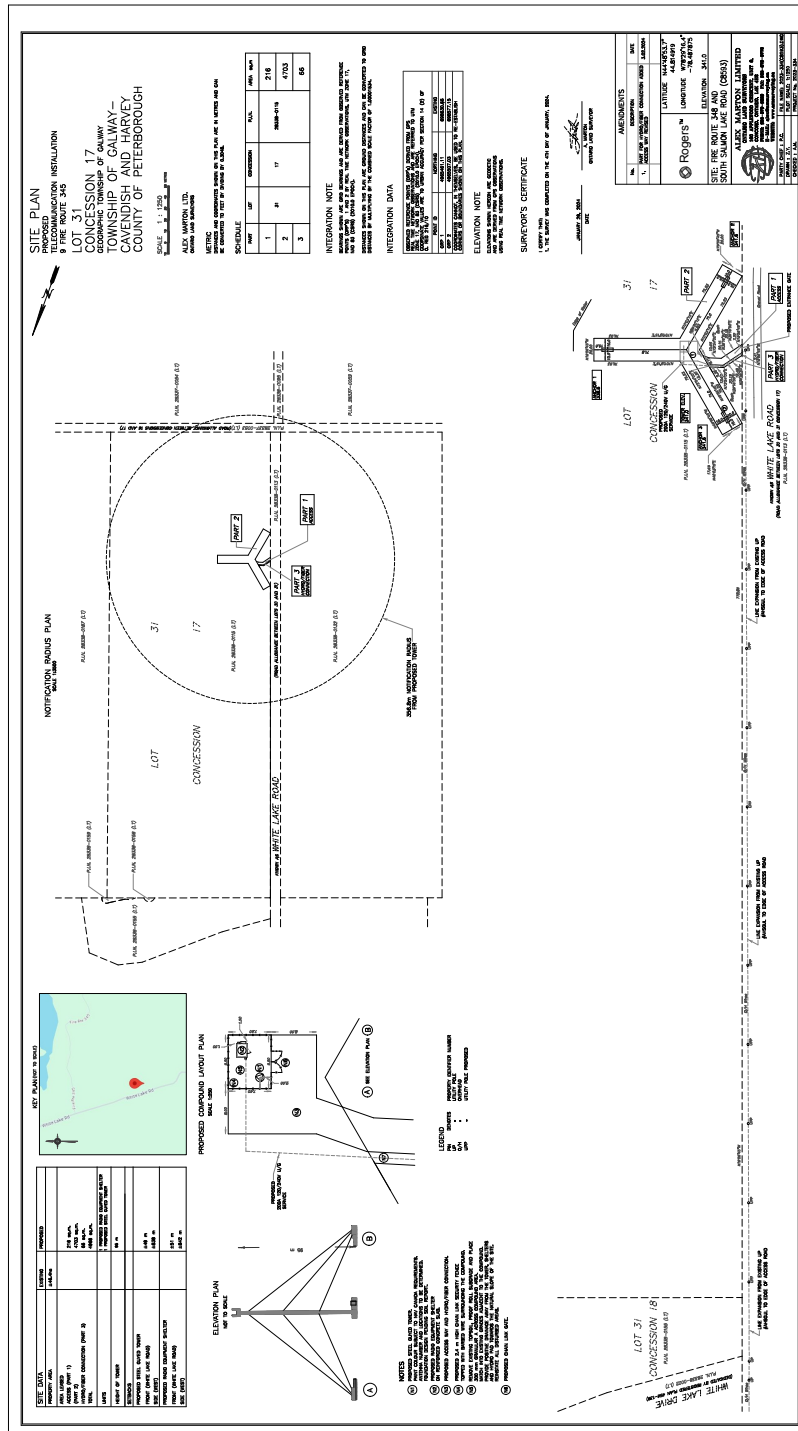


## **APPENDIX 1**

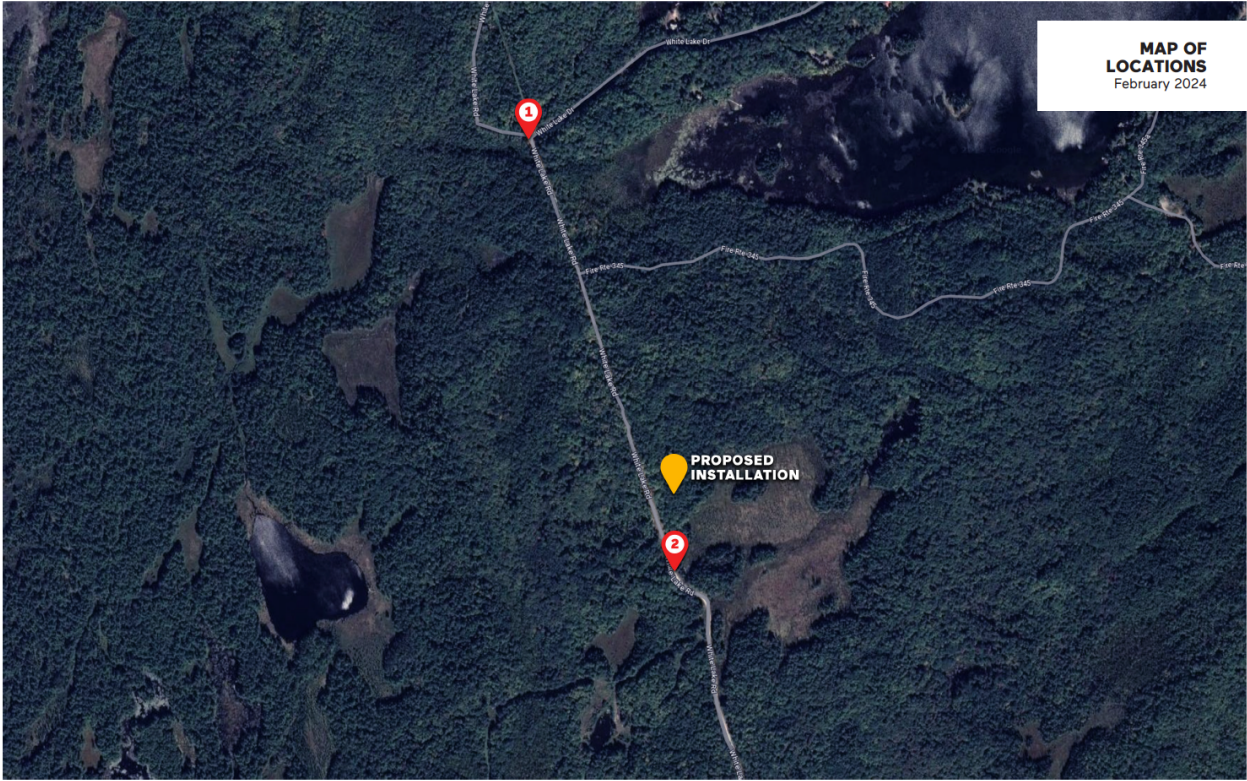
### **Public Consultation Package**

\*Attached separately

## Site Survey



**APPENDIX 3**  
**Photo Simulations Package**



**C8593 FIRE ROUTE 348 AND SOUTH SALMON LAKE ROAD**



