

**COUNCIL AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACT AWARDS  
CONTRACT INCREASE**

<b>Project Award</b>	Contract Increase – Site-to-site connectivity and business internet services
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Staff is recommending approval to proceed with a contract increase to Bell Canada Inc. for an extension of the Town’s site-to-site fiber optic connectivity and business internet service agreements in the total estimated amount of \$157,740 (exclusive of HST).</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	As per Section 10.1 of Purchasing By-law No. 061-2018, Council approval is required.
<b>Background information</b>	<p>The Town of Milton relies on site-to-site fiber optic communication links between its various facilities and high-speed internet connectivity to provide a robust, reliable and secure network infrastructure that supports critical Town-wide information technology services. Bell Canada currently provides site-to-site fiber optic communication links across 16 Town-owned facilities, along with connection monitoring services and dedicated business-grade internet connectivity - all of which work together to provide a robust and reliable network infrastructure that supports day-to-day digital functions across the organization.</p> <p>The Town’s current contract for site-to-site fiber optic connectivity, most recently authorized under ES-038-24 (Schedule L), expires on January 20, 2026. The current contract for business internet services (also authorized under ES-038-24) expires on December 7, 2026. Managed monitoring services for the site-to-site fiber optic connectivity expires on February 21, 2027.</p> <p>Due to the related and tightly integrated nature of these three services as it pertains to connectivity across the organization, it is necessary to ensure these contract end dates are made co-terminus in order for the Town to cleanly transition over to a new service provider without any residual contractual obligations once existing contracts expire. Additionally, it is anticipated that a competitive process for a new service provider(s), along with an associated transition/implementation period will take a minimum of 8-12 months to complete. As such, the Town must extend the existing agreements with Bell Canada for site-to-site fiber connectivity by 13 months and the existing business internet services by 3 months in order to align with a February 21, 2027 end date for all services. This will provide the Town adequate time to transition to a new service provider via a competitive process in advance of this revised end date.</p> <p>The Town currently pays \$10,980 per month for site-to-site connectivity services and \$5,000 per month for business internet</p>

**Schedule C**

	services. A 13-month extension to the current site-to-site fiber connectivity contract and a 3-month extension to the existing business internet contract is in the estimated amount of \$157,740 (exclusive of HST). The ongoing costs for these services are funded from the annual operating budget and have been included during development of the 2026 operating budget.
<b>Financial Planning Section: Budget Impact</b> (Note 1)	
<b>Account Number(s)</b> <b>Account Description</b> <b>Project Total Budget</b>	2216-3706 Communications - All N/A
<b>Contract Budget</b> (Note 2) <b>Actual</b> (Net of HST Rebate) (Note 2) <b>Variance</b> (Note 3) <b>Funding Source</b>	\$195,135 \$195,135 \$0 Operating Budget

Note 1: Financial impact includes any non-refundable portion of HST.

Note 2: Contract budget and actual represent annual funding and contract amount.

Note 3: Contract actuals are an estimate only. Spending relative to the approved budgets will be reviewed with Financial Planning and any variances reported through the variance process.