

Office of the Mayor

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July 31, 2019

Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada
Senior Director, Spectrum Licensing and Auction Operations
235 Queen Street (6th Floor, East Tower)
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0H5

Attn: Spectrum Licensing and Auction Operations Branch

To Whom It May Concern,

I am reaching out today regarding the upcoming 3500 MHz Band Spectrum Auction. Cities across Canada depend on broadband services to deliver essential services to its citizens and businesses. The upcoming auction is important for the establishment of Canada's 5G market and how the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) structures the auction will have major implications for competition and pricing of services available through the next generation of network development.

A competitive wireless market is important for the people of Burlington and throughout Canada. It is essential that citizens, businesses, non-profits and governments, are all able to access a competitive market for 5G services. Competition and choice will lead to more affordable pricing and will foster more innovation and support local economies. We therefore encourage the Canadian government to take steps to support sustainable competition in the market.

To encourage competition, we support an auction framework that sets aside a percentage of spectrum for regional providers. In addition, to encourage competition, we support a combination of both a set-aside and a cap to ensure regional providers have access to spectrum in all major markets and every region in the country.

By pursuing pro-competitive measures, ISED can help ensure that customers, governments, and businesses have access to affordable prices and improved network performance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marianne Meed Ward'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
City of Burlington