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**From:** Stetski, Wayne - Assistant 3

**Sent:** Monday, June 25, 2018 9:41:21 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Spectrum Auctions / Encheres du spectre (IC)

**Subject:** Re: Gazette Notice SLPB-004-18, Consultation on Revisions to the 3500 MHz Band to Accommodate Flexible Use and Preliminary Consultation on Changes to the 3800 MHz Band

Dear Senior Director, Spectrum Licensing and Auction Operations Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada

One of the issues I often hear about in my riding of Kootenay-columbia is the lack of access to broadband connectivity in rural areas.

Increasingly, vital information and services are only available online. Banking, bills, government documents, job searches, flight and hotel bookings, etc etc are mostly accessed through the internet.

For rural and small community residents, the world of information is increasingly dark for them because they do not have access to the same internet resources that large city dwellers have. Improving – or often, creating – the fixed wireless spectrum is crucial to rural connectivity.

As the MP for Kootenay-Columbia, my constituents and I are deeply concerned about the proposed reduction of spectrum described in Option 1 (paragraph 46). Reducing the spectrum available for rural broadband networks will adversely affect broadband services in rural communities across Canada.

I urge ISED to prevent the reduction of any spectrum holdings that are currently used for providing services in rural communities; rather, ISED should work to make more spectrum available for providing fixed wireless services to rural communities.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

**Wayne Stetski**

MP for Kootenay--Columbia | Député de Kootenay--Columbia  
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