



Our File No. 8150 04

July 12, 2018

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
c/o Senior Director, Spectrum Licensing and Auction Operations
235 Queen Street, 6th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5
Via email to ic.spectrumauctions-encheresduspectre.ic@canada.ca

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Canada Gazette, Part 1, June 2018, 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

The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, in northwestern British Columbia, is a vast, diverse region of cities and rural and remote communities boasting economic potential and a wonderful quality of life. To improve upon this, the Regional District's Economic Development Commission has deemed the pursuit of improved connectivity for its communities a priority. We thank you for your consultation on revising the 3500 MHz band and would like to highlight desired outcomes of this consultation process.

As Canadians, we appreciate our country's endeavours to pursue competitiveness in advancing connectivity technologies and understand that the 3500 MHz band is considered the best spectrum for 5G. However, as representatives for several rural communities, we would like the interests of rural communities and the entities that provide services to those rural communities not to be forgotten or given lower priority solely based on population density.

Understandably, the two options suggested for the revision to the 3500 MHz band come with their pros and cons; however, the second option does seem to better protect (have the least negative impact on) the small- to medium-sized entities that are more likely to service smaller communities in comparison to Option 1. We note that the consultation process is also seeking alternative suggestions and we hope that this proves fruitful, as we do not have the resources to provide expert solutions in a timely manner, but we do believe that a solution exists that benefits a fair balance of rural and urban communities and least impacts large and small entities alike.

We intend to participate in the coming steps of this consultation process.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deklan Corstanje', written over a blue horizontal line.

Deklan Corstanje
Economic Development Officer

DC/bm

cc: Hon. Navdeep Bains