



Reference:

Gazette Notice No. SMSE-018-10

April 5, 2011

Manager, Mobile Technology and Service  
Industry Canada  
300 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C8

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Spectrum – support for an open and transparent auction

On behalf of the Cariboo Regional District, I wish to express our strong support for expanding wireless connectivity into rural areas.

We understand that the 700 MHz spectrum to be auctioned at the end of next year will power 4G, the next generation of mobile technology – technology that promises to deliver speeds of up to 100+ Mbps.

All communities across the country – including growing rural communities like ours – deserve access to this technology and the leading-edge devices it supports.

Wireless connectivity is a powerful economic enabler and critical component of any healthy, growing community. It creates new jobs and opportunities, increases business productivity and competitiveness, empowers small business, facilitates the role of local government, and connects family and friends.

Please ensure that Canadians everywhere can benefit equally by setting spectrum auction rules that promote expansion into rural areas and do not provide special treatment to any wireless provider, let alone to those that choose to offer services only to Canadians located in the biggest cities.



*building communities together*

Ph: (250) 392-3351 TF: 1 (800) 665-1636 Fax: (250) 392-2812 [www.cariboord.bc.ca](http://www.cariboord.bc.ca) Suite D, 180 North Third Avenue Williams Lake, BC V2G 2A4

Municipalities Quesnel Wells Williams Lake 100 Mile House Electoral Areas A. Red Bluff - Quesnel B. Quesnel West - Bouchie Lake C. Barlow - Bowron D. Wildwood - McLeese Lake E. Esler - Dog Creek F. 150 Mile House - Horsefly-Likely G. Lac La Hache - 108 Mile H. Carim Lake Forest Creek J. Massah M. M. L. P. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z.

We urge the adoption of stringent roll-out requirements for this spectrum: if it is not utilized within three years, the license should be forfeited. This will ensure that companies which acquire spectrum are incented to use it quickly.

I trust that the government will consider the interests of communities and rural regions in establishing the rules that govern the upcoming auction for scarce 700 MHz spectrum.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RD Armstrong".

FOR

Ted Armstrong  
Vice-Chair

