Comcentric Networking Inc Glenn Grubb President PO BOX 220, 60 Queen St Ripley, ON N0G2R0

SITT-00000336

Dear Mr. Grubb:

The Connect to Innovate (CTI) program received 892 applications from various stakeholders from across all regions of Canada, requesting \$4.4 billion in funding in support for high-speed internet infrastructure projects. This speaks volumes to the enthusiasm and need to provide new or improved access to high-speed internet for rural and remote communities across Canada.

The assessment of all CTI applications is now completed and unfortunately, your application has not been selected. I would like to thank you for your participation in the CTI program.

In June 2019, the federal government announced a national broadband strategy with the goal of ensuring universal high-speed Internet access for every Canadian community across Canada. <u>High-Speed Access for All: Canada's</u> <u>Connectivity Strategy</u> aims to deliver high-speed Internet access at speeds of 50 Mbps (download) and 10 Mbps (upload) to 90% of Canadians by 2021, 95% of Canadians by 2026 and all Canadians by 2030, as well as expand mobile wireless service on highways and major roads.

A key pillar of this strategy is the \$1 billion Universal Broadband Fund (UBF), which will be launched in Spring 2020. I invite you to visit the <u>Get Connected website</u> of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada for updates on the development of the UBF process. An application guide outlining eligible activities and the funding available will be published once the program's parameters have been finalized early this year.

As you may also be aware, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has recently announced details of a \$750 million fund for broadband projects in underserved areas in Canada. The CRTC launched its first round of applications for northern territories and satellite-dependent communities in Canada on June 3, 2019. A second round of applications for the ten Canadian provinces was launched on November 13, 2019 and is open until March 27, 2020. You may wish to visit the CRTC website for more information.

Should you require more information from CTI program officials regarding your application(s) or wish to share your feedback from your experience with the CTI process, as well as provide your views on the UBF, we encourage you to write to us at <u>ic.cti-bpi.ic@canada.ca</u> or <u>ic.universalbroadbandfund-fondspourlalargebandeuniverselle.ic@canada.ca</u>.

Thank you for your CTI application and for your desire to bring new or improved access to high-speed internet to Canadians. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Krista Campbell Director General, Connected Canada Branch Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Government of Canada