

**Wireless Communication Facility – 52172 Range Road 232 (Ward 6)****Report Purpose**

To request authorization from Council to send a letter of support to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada for a proposed wireless communication facility (wireless service).

**Recommendation**

THAT Council authorize administration to prepare and send a letter to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada in support of a proposed wireless communication facility consisting of a 50.0 m freestanding telecommunications tower (lattice) to be located on NE 10-52-23-W4 (Lot A, Plan 3104TR) at 52172 Range Road 232.

**Our Prioritized Strategic Goals**

Goal 1 - Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

Goal 6 - Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents

**Report**

In order to provide continuous wireless (cellular) coverage to customers in the surrounding area of Strathcona County, the service provider (Evolve Surface Strategies on behalf of Rogers Communications) proposes to erect a 50.0 m freestanding lattice telecommunications tower on NE 10-52-23-W4 (Lot A, Plan 3104TR). Eighteen (18) notices were sent to adjacent/affected property owners. Two (2) emails/letters were received from nearby property owners as a result.

An open house was held on October 23, 2018. The attendees voiced the same concerns as were provided in the letter and email received.

The concerns raised with regard to the proposed tower included the following:

- Health and safety concerns with proximity to a residence
- Height and style of tower
- Redundancy concern questioning the need of another tower (co-location consideration)

Summary of mitigation of concerns:

- The proponent is required to follow health and safety guidelines outlined in Health Canada Safety Code Six.
- The height and style of tower is required for line of site and increased bandwidth due to increased public consumption.
- Co-location has been explored by the proponent. The nearest tower is 4.5 km away and does not have capacity to accommodate the required infrastructure. The site selection process takes into consideration radio frequency requirements, elevation, and line of site.

The proponent has completed the required public consultation process and has met the criteria and guidelines of Land Use Bylaw 6-2015.

**Council and Committee History**

September 5, 2017	Council adopted Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 20-2017 with an effective date of September 5, 2017.
March 15, 2015	Council adopted Land Use Bylaw 6-2015 with an effective date of May 11, 2015.
June 26, 2007	Council adopted Bylaw 5-2007 to include Section 9.24, Wireless Communications Facilities in Land Use Bylaw 8-2001.

**Other Impacts****Policy:** n/a

**Legislative/Legal:** Wireless communications facilities are regulated and approved under the federal jurisdiction of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada requires proponents to consult with the local land use authority. Section 6.20 of Land Use Bylaw 6-2015 outlines the County's consultation process including notification to landowners, internal departments, and external agencies. Where concerns are received, the proponent is also required to conduct an open house and mitigate concerns where feasible. Upon completion of the consultation process, Strathcona County provides a letter to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada confirming that the consultation process has been conducted and providing a statement of support or non-support.

**Interdepartmental:** The proposal has been circulated to internal County departments and external agencies.

**Master Plan/Framework:** n/a

**Enclosures**

1	Location map
2	Site plan information package
3	Example elevation plan