



NEWS RELEASE

February 24, 2026

Broadband Project Moves Forward Following Comprehensive Review by Clearwater County Broadband Committee

(Rocky Mountain House, AB) - On February 13, 2026, Clearwater County Broadband Committee formally approved the County's broadband project to proceed, marking a significant milestone in the long-term initiative to expand high-speed internet access across the county.

Committee's decision follows a comprehensive due diligence process that included detailed financial review, risk analysis, and evaluation of long-term sustainability. Council carefully examined project costs, funding commitments, operational structure, and timelines to ensure the initiative aligns with Clearwater County's strategic priorities and fiscal responsibilities before voting in favour of advancing the program.

"This Council is now in a position where previous grant agreements and contractual obligations have created financial commitments," said Reeve Jordon Northcott. "Our responsibility today is to manage those commitments prudently, ensure strong oversight, and deliver infrastructure that is reliable, sustainable, and financially responsible. Our focus now is on protecting the County's long-term interests and making sure this investment is delivered successfully."

The approval follows confirmation of additional funding support from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) and the Government of Alberta, announced January 30, 2026, in Ardrossan, Alberta by the Honourable Buckley Belanger, Secretary of State for Rural Development, and the Honourable Nate Glubish, Minister of Technology and Innovation of Alberta.

Following more than two decades of planning and feasibility work under Council direction and through the Clearwater County Broadband Committee, along with this funding announcement mark a significant milestone in the project's development.

The broadband initiative is positioned to deliver high-speed internet service to more than 4,300 households across Clearwater County, with construction anticipated to be completed by March 31, 2027.

The project will establish fibre-based infrastructure through an open-access network model, enabling multiple internet service providers to offer services.

Clearwater County will share additional information and project updates in the coming weeks through the County's official communication channels.

Media Inquiries:

Communications Department
Clearwater County

communications@clearwatercounty.ca

403-845-4444