

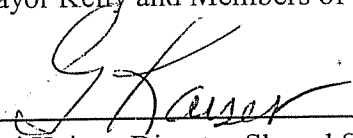
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PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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Halifax Regional Council  
August 26, 2003

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:   
Geri Kaiser, Director Shared Services

DATE: August 26, 2003

SUBJECT: High Speed Internet - Update

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

The Report originates from a Council request of June 24, 2003.

**9.4 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**9.4.1 Councillor Colwell - High Speed Internet Service from Aliant for District 3**

Councillor Colwell requested a staff report on what areas in District 3 are covered by Aliant high speed internet service and determine what can be done to get this system installed as soon as possible.

**BACKGROUND**

Council has directed staff to report on the availability of high speed Internet services in various unserved areas of HRM and service providers' plans for future expansion.

**DISCUSSION**

There are currently two competing technologies available to residents of HRM for High Speed Internet Services. The technologies rely on either a cable company providing the service or a phone provider using their existing infrastructure. Not all areas in HRM are serviced; some areas are serviced by one; others by both technologies.

HRM staff is currently in consultation with the major local providers of High Speed Internet Services, and will be prepared to brief Council, In-Camera, in September 2003 with the current availability of these services and any planned expansion by these providers.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

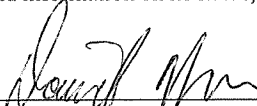
This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

There are no recommended alternatives.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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