

Boosting Connectivity in the Moyie Area

This Swift Internet project would upgrade the last-mile broadband infrastructure that connects residents, businesses, and institutions to the Internet in the Moyie area. The project would deploy industry leading technology to fully upgrade the towers, access points, backhauls, routers, equipment shelters, and power infrastructure at three local tower sites. The upgrades would allow Swift to meet or exceed Canada's federal targets for 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload speeds and quality of Internet access. Not only would the network close the connectivity gap for 280 underserved Moyie households, but it has been designed to accommodate foreseeable population and business development as well as changes in demands for speed and throughput into the coming decade.

The chosen technology represents an emerging industry standard for cost-effectively bridging rural-urban connectivity gaps in areas with low population density. The affordability of the technology coupled with Swift's streamlined upgrading practices means that the project would meet federal standards at an average cost of \$895 per household – less than half the cost of other wireless solutions. Swift is seeking a \$100 per household Community Works Fund investment. Each CWF dollar would leverage \$7.95 in combined Swift, NDIT Connecting British Columbia, and CRTC Broadband Fund investment in Moyie's last-mile infrastructure. The project would leverage past investments in Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation backbone infrastructure. It would open up the potential for all of the personal, social, and economic benefits that come with connectivity for the Moyie community.

Upgrading in Moyie would be part of a broader upgrading project for the Swift Internet service area. A comprehensive Project Plan and detailed budget for that project have been provided.