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Good Morning ladies & gentlemen – Bon Matin mes amis,

Ministers, colleagues and all assembled here today, may I state how pleased I am to say FINALLY, FINALLY, this implementation of Hi-Speed Broadband starting today – is now a reality! To use a sport's analogy today's announcement is a game changer.

For many of us gathered here today this has been a 5 year crusade to ensure Eastern Ontario and its citizens can compete not only Regionally, but Globally.

For business, large or small, home based or industry, for services such as E-health, online banking, for education from homework to research and for personal social networking, high speed connectivity is no longer a luxury of a few, but an absolute necessity for all our citizens. Personally, I can tell you it has taken countless meetings, over several years with many people, some of whom are gathered here to make today's announcement a reality.

As one such person and as your Federal Member of Parliament, let me thank our Ministers and respective governments for their tremendous support. Particularly, Minister Baird for his dogged pursuit through the departmental gauntlet of this highly technical project, and today Minister Strahl, not only for your presence as the Minister responsible, but for your guidance and support through the necessary cabinet approval process, and Minister Flaherty for inclusion in the budget, and certainly my colleagues from across Eastern Ontario, I see for their total commitment. Let me thank our Warden's Council and our municipal representatives for their initiative and encouragement, and please let me offer my sincere gratitude to CEO Jim Pine and his staff for their dedication and perseverance, it has truly been a tremendous team to work with. Finally, let me thank our collective constituents for their continued support as we fought to realize the potential of this collective initiative.

Has this been a project of personal pursuit?

Unequivocally YES, but what is truly important is this shared partnership is a tremendous win for our communities and the future of our children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daryl Kramp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daryl Kramp, M.P.  
Prince Edward-Hastings



Daryl Kramp, MP  
Prince Edward-Hastings

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*Working with you. Working for you!*

### **Kramp: Construction Begins on Eastern Ontario's Broadband Mega-Network**

Canada, Ontario and the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
Move Landmark Partnership Forward

August 31, 2010

**Corbyville, Ontario** — Daryl Kramp, Member of Parliament for Prince Edward-Hastings, joined with Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, The Honourable Chuck Strahl, the Honourable Carol Mitchell, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture and the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus at Trillium Woods in Corbyville, to announce that Ontario's largest rural broadband network is ready to begin construction. The high-speed Internet infrastructure project will connect with local delivery systems to expand service to an estimated 1 million residents and businesses in Eastern Ontario.

"Our Government remains committed to deliver investments that help create jobs and build strong, sustainable communities now and for years to come," said Minister Strahl. "The construction of a broadband network in Eastern Ontario will help to expand and improve local businesses and their services, connect family and friends to one another, and significantly boost our regional economy."

"Along with my colleagues from Eastern Ontario I am thrilled to be part of the team that has championed access to Hi Speed Broadband for our region", said Mr. Kramp. "This technology will provide tremendous benefits to our area and will allow us to compete not only regionally but globally."

"The McGuinty government is building partnerships that help bring vital health, education and business services to Ontarians living in rural and remote communities. This large-scale broadband project co-ordinated by the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus is a major achievement," said Minister Mitchell.

"Providing broadband access to residents, businesses and First Nations communities is one of the keys to unlocking the enormous potential of our region. This network is essential to our prosperity," said EOWC Chair, David Burton.

"Bell Aliant and Bell Canada are pleased to have been selected to complete this significant communications infrastructure project together for the homes and businesses of Eastern

Ontario,” said Chuck Hartlen, Senior Vice President of Customer Solutions, Bell Aliant. “By building this core backbone fibre network and by using our extensive communications and technology expertise, we will be enabling access to faster, next generation broadband technology to 95% of this Eastern Ontario region.”

"Our mission is to provide innovative broadband solutions to rural customers at work, home, and play," said John Maduri, CEO of Barrett Xplore Inc. “We are proud to be working with EOWC, an organization that is as passionate about connecting rural Ontarians to high-speed Internet as we are."

Through the Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component, the governments of Canada and Ontario target larger, strategic projects of national and regional significance. Projects that support economic growth such as connectivity and broadband qualify for joint funding under this fund.

#### **LEARN MORE**

- About the [EOWC Broadband Plan and construction schedule](#)
- About [Canada’s Economic Action Plan](#)
- About [Ontario’s Rural Broadband Progress](#)