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April 15, 2024

The Hon. Lisa Naylor
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
203-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

RE: The Importance of a Stable and Reliable Internet Service in the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent

Dear Lisa Naylor,

This is a follow-up to my previous email to your office, dated March 26th, 2024 regarding the Waste Water Treatment in the Interlake Region.

Our attention is drawn to an article published by CBC News on April 5th concerning the issues of poor network connectivity in the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent. As highlighted by St. Laurent's Reeve Rick Chartrand, this issue concerns not only the Municipality of St. Laurent but also the Interlake community.

As my team is currently working on a major Senior & Staff Housing Project along the Highway 6 corridor in St. Laurent, we are concerned about the impact of this spotty internet service will have on the project. In reference to my previous email, this project is essential for the Municipality as it would also serve adjacent municipalities along the Highway 6 corridor.

At Morning Breeze HealthCare, our goal is to provide equitable and culturally-appropriate healthcare services to Indigenous Communities. Aligning our goals with the Truth and Reconciliation "94 Calls to Action," our effort places specific emphasis on "*Calls to Action 18-24*" which are very specific to the provision of healthcare services.

Morning Breeze HealthCare is committed to offering innovative solutions to enhance our services to our clients regardless of their location. We endeavor to leverage software and artificial intelligence that can significantly contribute to achieving our goals. This is why we are concerned about the article on CBC dated April 5th, entitled, "Spotty cell phone service, "insulting" to St. Laurent residents, Reeve of St. Laurent, MB."

<http://cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/st-laurent-cellphone-service-1.7163820>

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We believe that addressing this concern is important to our use of technology to develop and utilize our user-friendly scheduling application for a seamless communication between the healthcare team, clients, family members and vice-versa.

In the coming few months, Morning Breeze HealthCare anticipates the full operation of our *Senior and healthcare staff housing* with the provision of **24-hour health services in St. Laurent**. As such, we are concerned that if the current sporadic availability of cellular connection is not addressed, it will hinder the effective utilization of our virtual care communication software.

As the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, we call upon you to act on ensuring that the residents, not only of St. Laurent, but all the Municipalities along the corridor of Highway 6, leading up to Thompson, MB have access to a good cellular connection via a Cell Tower.

Access to a stable cellular reception will greatly enhance the recently announced public notice on the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.

With the recent headwinds from Bell Canada/Bell MTS, we urged that you continue to work with the Minister of Northern Affairs, the Honourable Dan Vandal, to ensure that Bell MTS or other Mobile/Cell Tower provider can provide a much needed, stable cellular services along the corridor of Highway 6.

On behalf of the residents of St. Laurent, we are looking forward to a favourable and timely action from your office in coordination with the office of the Minister of Northern Affairs, the Honourable Dan Vandal. A copy of this letter is also submitted to Mr. Vandal's office.

Thank you for your attention and assistance with our concerns.

Yours truly,



Genaro Guevarra

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