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**To:** Tim Timmons <[ttimmons@lacombecounty.com](mailto:ttimmons@lacombecounty.com)>, "admin @ Missing Link Internet" <[admin@misslink.ca](mailto:admin@misslink.ca)>

**Subject:** Fibre optic Grant opportunity

Thank you for taking my call today.

I would like to start with saying that I appreciate the collaboration we have had with Lacombe County to date.

As you know Missing Link Internet is an internet provider servicing central Alberta since 2012. In 2018 we brought Harewaves into the Missing Link Internet family. We currently service a large portion the county with wireless and some with fibre.

We are what's called a hybrid network which means we have wireless and fibre deployments. The reason I am reaching out to you today is that we would like to submit a grant to the CRTC with the County of Lacombe for a fibre optic to the home network in places such as Mirror or any others that the county could identify.

The CRTC has clearly stated that applications that have a municipality engaged financially are more likely to be chosen than those just submitted by an ISP.

We have been successful in securing 4 federal grants in the last 2 years. In fact we are one of only 6 entities in the province of Alberta to be chosen for Federal monies in the previous round of funding.

We are currently submitting joint applications with Ponoka county and are in talks with Wetaskiwin county, as well as The Villages of Alix, Clive, Bashaw, and Caroline to submit applications.

The Structure with Ponoka County that we are using is as follows.

25% of the costs upfront are born by the county for which the county gets %25 ownership.

This is with an understanding that over the course of 15 years from completion we buy the %25 share back.

We have used this structure with the County of Ponoka before and we completed the buyback within 3 years time far ahead of the 15 year time period.

We would endeavour to do the same with the County of Lacombe.

The ask is for a conditional partnership. If we are awarded the Grant then the Municipality would become our partner in this Fibre network.

In the end the municipality has no financial burden and the community, communication wise, has all the benefits of the big city with the benefits of small town living.

The closing date for this round of grants is April 30th 2020.

I know with the COVID19 that this is a trying time but I would not want the County of Lacombe to miss out on this opportunity.

I look forward to answering any questions for council.

You can email back or call me at 780 312 6595.