Indigenous relations policy

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) is dedicated to working closely with Indigenous communities and organizations and having meaningful relations throughout all of its projects.

EORN acknowledges and respects the unique cultural practices and values possessed by Indigenous Peoples and the way in which these are embedded in their management of the environment. EORN will conduct business in a way that protects the environment and respects Indigenous traditions, values and resources, and will embrace the opportunity to learn from their connection to the land.

As EORN strives to improve cell phone and broadband capacity and coverage in eastern Ontario, we will collaborate with Indigenous communities and organizations, endeavouring to ensure that they will benefit from our efforts as much as possible. EORN will actively look for opportunities to align initiatives with the Indigenous communities and organizations in the region in order to support these communities to prosper.

EORN looks forward to engaging in consultation on our projects and will do so in the spirit of good faith, mutual respect and honesty. We commit to all aspects of our assigned duty to consult obligations as required by law and will give notice of projects as early as possible. We will seek guidance from Indigenous Peoples throughout the process.

During EORN's first broadband project (between 2010 and 2015) we developed fruitful and mutually rewarding partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations in eastern Ontario. Our staff worked closely with Indigenous communities and organizations in the region to help improve access to high-speed internet services and we are dedicated to applying that same approach to all our cell and broadband projects.

Moving forward, EORN will ensure that staff have the skills and resources necessary to develop and maintain these important, meaningful relationships.

This Indigenous Relations Policy is an integral part of what we do at EORN and will be shared with our staff, board of directors and stakeholders as well as the general public and our customers.

