



MRC  
**D'ARGENTEUIL**  
Authentique. *Avec vous.*



**FIBRE**  
ARGENTEUIL

INFORMATION EVENING  
ON FIBRE OPTIC  
DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS

February 2020

# PRESENTATION PLAN

- Welcoming remarks
- History and description
- Presentation of current and planned FTTH projects
  - **Summary of coverage of the FTTH deployment projects**
  - *Connect to Innovate* and *Québec Branché* project (eligibility criteria, geographic coverage and progress report)
  - Projects funded by *Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions (FARR)* – MAMH - (eligibility criteria, geographic coverage and progress report)
  - Funding application submitted in December 2019 for the *Régions Branchées* program (eligibility criteria and geographic coverage) – Under analysis by the Government of Québec.
- Obstacles and constraints related to support structure attachment permit applications

# PRESENTATION PLAN – CONT.

- Fibre Argenteuil Inc. – Presentation
  - Mission and objectives
  - Board of Directors
  - Completed and future actions
- Services offered by Fibre Argenteuil Inc.
- Deployment phases, prioritization criteria and estimated time frames
- Investments by the MRC and Fibre Argenteuil
- Roles and responsibilities of the MRC and Fibre Argenteuil
- Next steps
- Closing remarks
- Questions and discussion



# HIGH SPEED INTERNET HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

# HISTORY

- 2005: Connecting towns and villages;
  - Connection of municipal offices, school boards and the MRC d'Argenteuil.
- 2009: Hiring of a project manager dedicated to high speed Internet;
  - Portrait of HSI coverage;
  - Soliciting of telecommunications companies to provide HSI in Argenteuil;
  - Submission of funding applications;
- 2010 to 2012: Cellular tower implementation project (Bell) – Project cancelled due to legal considerations;
- May 2012: Announcement of \$6.2 M in funding from the Government of Québec for the deployment of high speed Internet in Argenteuil. However, this funding was withdrawn in December 2012 following a re-evaluation of Québec's Digital Economy Strategy;
- Summer 2016: Completion of a new high speed fibre optic Internet deployment plan;

# HISTORY

- January 2017: Appointment of two MRC employees to focus on high speed Internet deployment projects;
- April 2017: Application for funding under the *Connect to Innovate* (federal) and *Québec Branché* (provincial) programs;
- November 2017: Announcement of \$9.3 M in funding for the deployment of high speed Internet using fibre optics;
- 2017 to 2019: Application for funding under the *FARR* program for fibre optics deployment projects with total costs of just over \$1.1 M;
- May 2019: Organizational meeting of Fibre Argenteuil Inc., adoption of Fibre Argenteuil's general by-laws, election of directors and appointment of officers;
- November 2019: Hiring of Denis Huberdeau as Director General of Fibre Argenteuil,
- December 2019: Funding application submitted by the MRC d'Argenteuil under the Government of Québec's *Régions Branchées* program;

## FACTS AND FIGURES

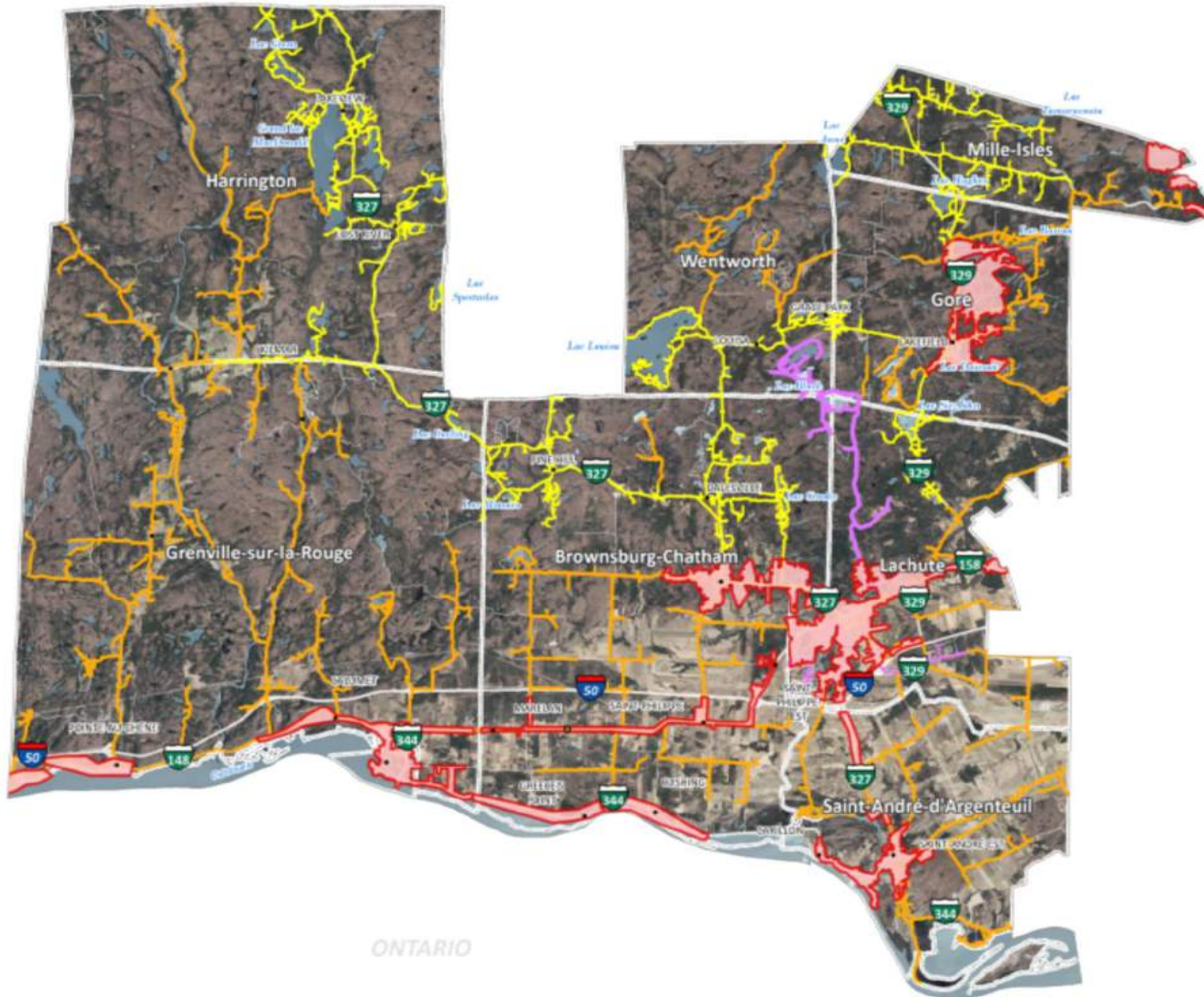
- Grants awarded to municipal entities or NPOs under the *Connect to Innovate* and *Québec Branché* projects:
  - 5 MRCs: Antoine-Labelle, **Argenteuil**, Bécancour, D’Autray and Papineau
  - 1 municipality: Ferland-et-Boileau (Saguenay)
  - 4 NPOs or associations: Internet Haut-Richelieu (for MRC de Brome-Missisquoi), Maskicom (for MRC de Maskinongé), Association pour la Télédistribution et Radio La Minerve (for Municipality of La Minerve), Table d’action en communication et technologies de l’information de la MRC de Coaticook (for MRC de Coaticook);
- These projects are funded in part by government; any portion deemed non-eligible under the funding program must be assumed by the community;
- Municipal entities located in large urban centres have not needed to invest money to ensure that their populations have access to high speed Internet.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

- To date, fibre optics remains the most reliable technology for providing high speed Internet services. It provides guaranteed download speeds and provides a very fast connection that suits all needs;
- Currently, only 55% of Argenteuil homes (11 000) have a high speed Internet connection (download speed of 5 MB/s or more);
- Following completion of deployment programs currently underway, 85% of homes (16 900) will have access to high speed Internet;
- If the MRC obtains funding under the Government of Québec's *Régions Branchées* program, 100% of homes (19 900) will have access to high speed Internet.

The background of the image is a dense array of fiber optic cables, with many individual strands visible and some showing bright light reflections. A large, teal-colored shape, resembling a stylized cloud or a decorative frame, is positioned in the lower-left quadrant. Inside this teal shape, the text "THE MRC'S FIBRE OPTIC DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

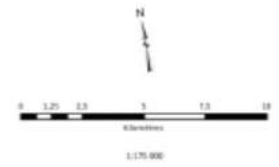
# THE MRC'S FIBRE OPTIC DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS



ONTARIO

## LA COUVERTURE ET LES PROJETS DE DÉPLOIEMENT D'INTERNET HAUTE VITESSE DANS LA MRC D'ARGENTEUIL OFFRANT 50 MO/S ET PLUS

-  Projet de déploiement FTTH de la MRC d'Argenteuil (Subventions de Brancher pour innover et Québec branché)
-  Projet de déploiement FTTH de la MRC d'Argenteuil (Subventions du Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions)
-  Couverture de dernier kilomètre proposée dans le programme Régions branchées
-  Couverture ou projet de déploiement Internet haute vitesse par d'autres télécommunicateurs



Projection : Mercator transverse modifiée (MTM), Zone 8  
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# THE MRC D'ARGENTEUIL'S *CONNECT TO INNOVATE* *AND QUÉBEC BRANCHÉ* PROJECT

- \$11,068,710 project (infrastructure only) submitted to the governments of Canada and Québec in April 2017;
- Several sectors of the MRC were deemed ineligible for funding programs (all sectors considered by the CRTC to have access to download speeds of 5 MB/S – incorrect CRTC map);
- November 27, 2017: Announcement of joint funding (federal and provincial) totalling \$9,304,710 for the high speed fibre optic Internet project;
- 355 kilometres of fibre optic cable;
- Fibre-to-the-Home technology (FTTH);
- The project covers about 4,200 homes;
- The first connections are expected in the summer of 2020, and will continue for several months until 2021, possibly even 2022.\*

\*Subject to the issuance of permits from support structure owners

# THE MRC D'ARGENTEUIL'S *CONNECT TO INNOVATE* AND *QUÉBEC BRANCHÉ* PROJECT - PROGRESS REPORT -

- **January to August 2018:** Negotiations with the federal and provincial governments on the content of the contribution agreements (withdrawal of certain sectors by the federal government);
- **August 23, 2018:** Mandate for the design (detailed engineering) and implementation of a telecommunications network awarded to CIMA+;
- **September and October 2018:** Signing of contribution agreements with the governments of Canada and Québec;
- **November 30, 2018:** Delivery of the project design review by CIMA+ ;
- **February 15, 2019:** Loan by-law in the amount of \$2,414,000 approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

# THE MRC D'ARGENTEUIL'S *CONNECT TO INNOVATE* AND *QUÉBEC BRANCHÉ* PROJECT - PROGRESS REPORT -

- **July 10, 2019:** Mandate for the acquisition of outdoor network equipment awarded to TVC Communication;

*Fibre optic reels and customer terminals are acquired and stored in a secured location.*



- **November 23, 2019:** Mandate for the acquisition of active equipment awarded to BroadNet Télécom;
- **February 2020:** Start of work on the telecommunications centre at 430 rue Grace, Lachute;
- **March 2020:** Establishment of Fibre Argenteuil's place of business on Rue Principale, Lachute.

## PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE *FONDS D'APPUI AU RAYONNEMENT DES RÉGIONS (FARR)*

- **The *Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions* – In a few words:**
  - *The Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions (FARR)* is a program offered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAMH);
  - Funding obtained under this program must be used for development projects aligned with the priorities determined by each region.

***The Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions is not dedicated solely to the deployment of high speed Internet, but is intended for any project that promotes regional development according to the priorities established by the regional steering committee.***

**The MRC d'Argenteuil has focused its applications for FARR project funding on the deployment of high speed Internet across its territory, demonstrating its desire to make this issue its top priority.**

## PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE *FONDS D'APPUI AU RAYONNEMENT DES RÉGIONS (FARR)*

- **Funding application submitted to FARR 2017-2018**
  - Project to deploy FTTH in Curran Lake in the Township of Wentworth (pilot project) – Providing connectivity for 55 homes
    - Total project cost: \$223,381
    - Amount of funding: \$178,381
  - Connecting CAMMAC Music Centre on Lake MacDonald
    - Total project cost: \$50,000
    - Amount of funding: \$42,500
- **Funding application submitted to FARR 2018-2021**
  - **Phase 2 of the pilot project:** Deployment of FTTH in the Dunany sector in Brownsburg-Chatham, Lachute and the Townships of Gore and Wentworth – Providing connectivity for almost 400 homes
  - Total project cost: \$600,000
  - Amount of funding: \$480,000

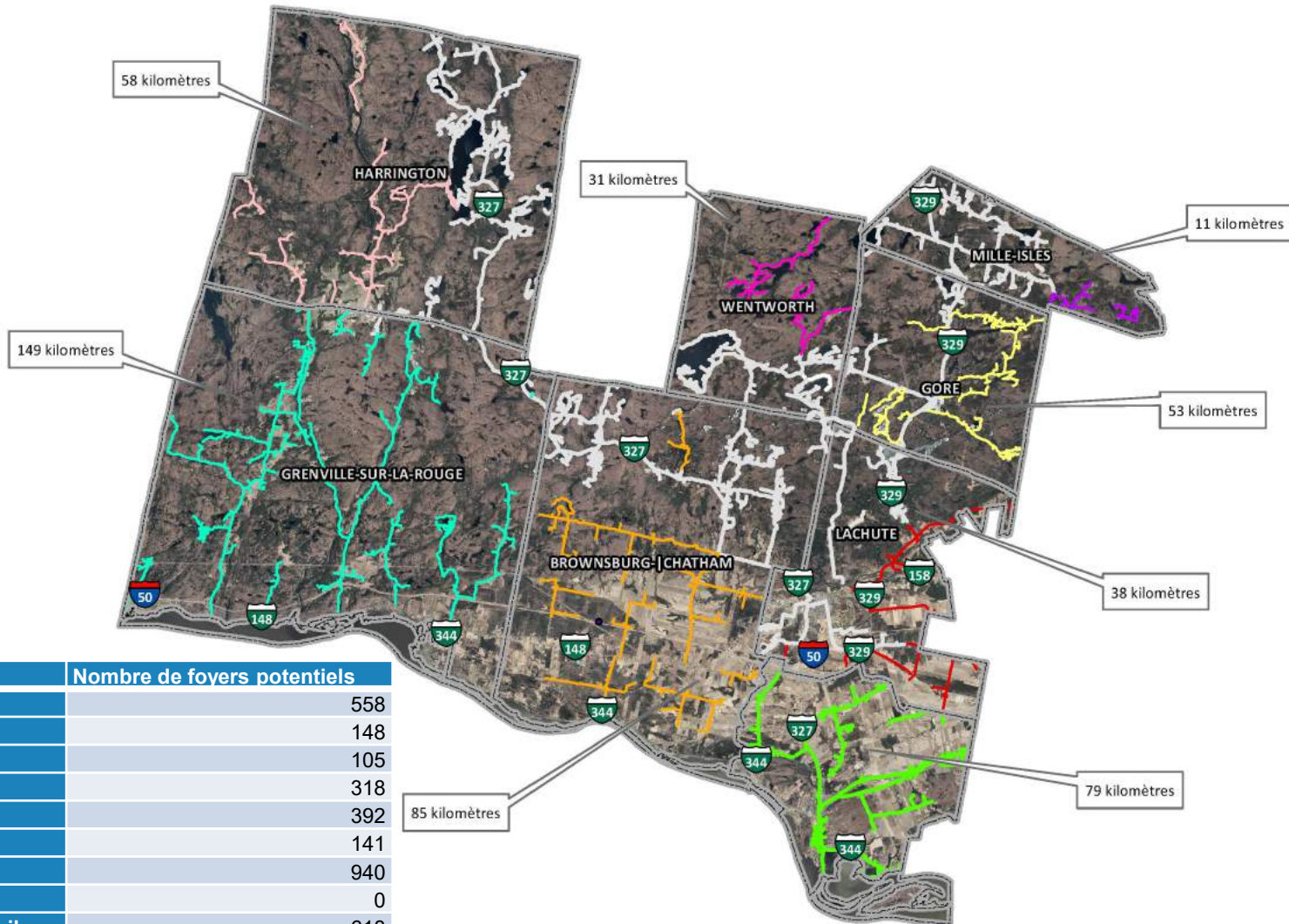
## PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE *FONDS D'APPUI AU RAYONNEMENT DES RÉGIONS (FARR)*

- **Funding application submitted to *FARR* 2018-2021**
  - **Construction of a fibre optic network** in Lachute's industrial parks to encourage the establishment of new businesses and, as a result, the creation of new jobs
    - Total project cost: \$330,000
    - Amount of funding: \$265,000

## THE RÉGIONS BRANCHÉES PROGRAM WITH A BUDGET ENVELOPE OF \$100 M FOR HIGH SPEED INTERNET PROJECTS THE MRC ARGENTEUIL'S STRATEGY


- December 2019: submission of a project that would provide high speed Internet access to 100% of underserved homes and partially served sectors in the MRC d'Argenteuil using fibre optics;
- Project involving about 550 kilometres of fibre optic cable;
- Requires the installation of two new points of presence (Harrington and Grenville-sur-la-Rouge);
- Project that would serve up to 3,200 homes;
- New MRC loan by-law will be needed to cover 30% of the total project costs as well as costs not eligible under the program.

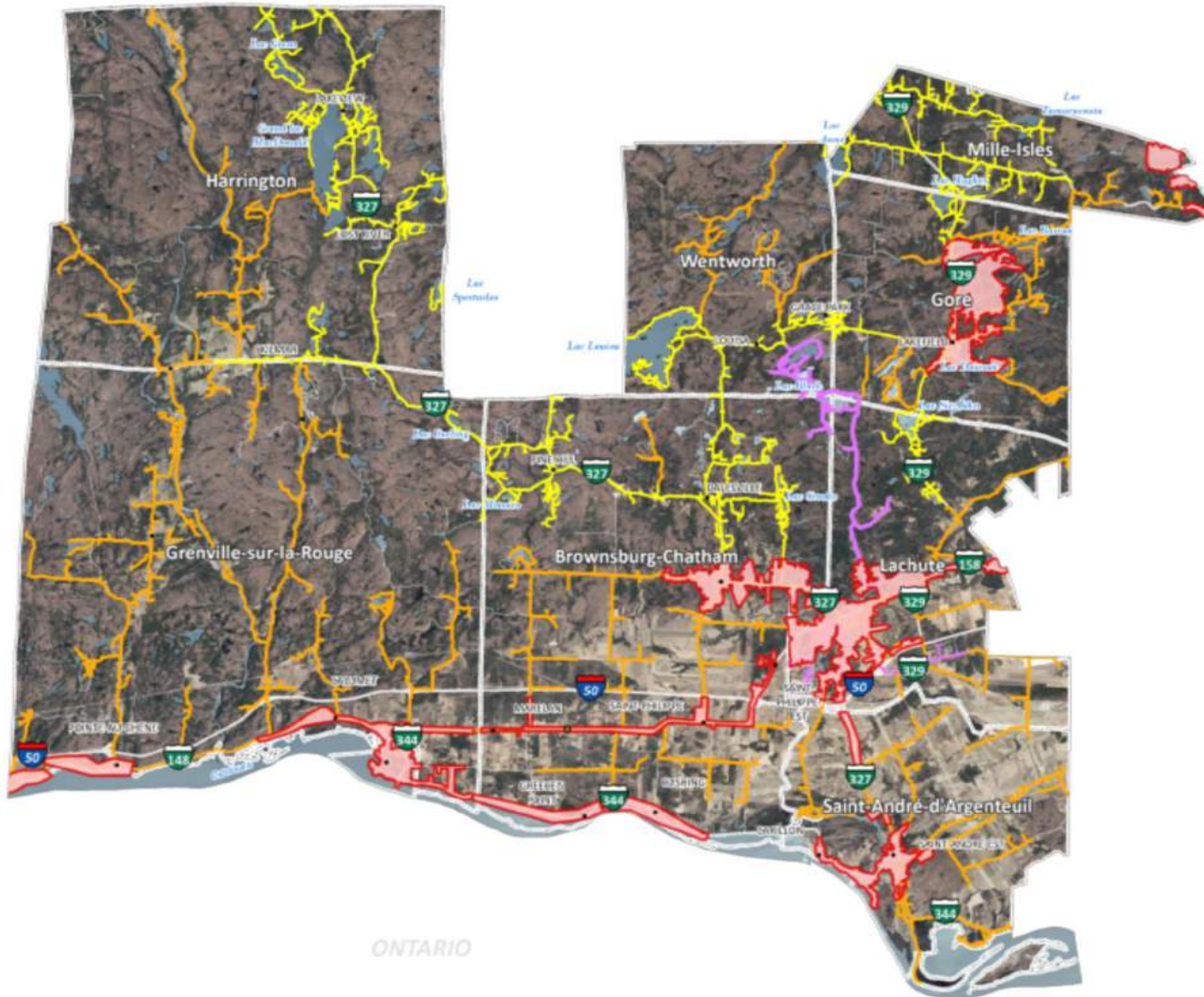
# UNVEILING OF THE NEW RÉGIONS BRANCHÉES PROGRAM WITH A BUDGET ENVELOPE OF \$100 M FOR HIGH SPEED INTERNET PROJECTS SUBMITTED DEPLOYMENT PLAN



Municipalité	Nombre de foyers potentiels
Gore	558
Mille-Isles	148
Wentworth	105
Harrington	318
Brownsburg-Chatham	392
Lachute	141
Grenville-sur-la-Rouge	940
Grenville	0
Saint-André-d'Argenteuil	618
	3220

# RÉGIONS BRANCHÉES PROGRAM WITH A BUDGET ENVELOPE OF \$100 M FOR HIGH SPEED INTERNET COST ASSESSMENT

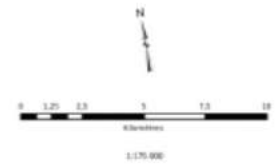
Québec 		RÉGIONS BRANCHÉES
<b>PRÉVISIONS DES COÛTS D'UNE PROPOSITION DE PROJET POUR 100% COUVERTURE</b>		
<b>RÉGIONS BRANCHÉES 2020-2022</b>		
<b>550 km</b>		
<b>100 % de couverture</b>		
DÉPENSES ADMISSIBLES		TOTAL
INGÉNIERIE	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	1 385 000 \$
RELEVÉS NIVEAU 2	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	210 000 \$
FRAIS DE DEMANDE DE PERMIS (BELL et HQ)	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	210 000 \$
CÂBLES ET BOITIERS (PASSIF)	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	4 656 000 \$
CONSTRUCTION DU RÉSEAU	<i>selon complexité projetée</i>	4 271 000 \$
ÉQUIPEMENTS SUR DORSALE (ACTIF)	<i>proportionnel projetée 2 POP</i>	105 000 \$
MAIN-D'ŒUVRE MRC	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	135 000 \$
TRAVAUX PRÉPARATOIRES	<i>selon ratio BPI</i>	2 900 000 \$
		<b>13 872 000 \$</b>
		<b>25 222 \$/ km</b>
DÉPENSES NON ADMISSIBLES		
AUTRE DÉPENSES (MISE EN OPÉRATION)		765 000 \$
		<b>TOTAL 14 637 000 \$</b>
FINANCEMENT D'UN PROJET 100%		
FINANCEMENT DU PROGRAMME 66,3%		9 710 400 \$
FINANCEMENT COMPLÉMENTAIRE 28,4%		4 161 600 \$
COÛTS NON ADMISSIBLES 5,3%		765 000 \$
		<b>14 637 000 \$</b>



ONTARIO

## LA COUVERTURE ET LES PROJETS DE DÉPLOIEMENT D'INTERNET HAUTE VITESSE DANS LA MRC D'ARGENTEUIL OFFRANT 50 MO/S ET PLUS

-  Projet de déploiement FTTH de la MRC d'Argenteuil (Subventions de Brancher pour innover et Québec branché)
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# OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS TO FTTH DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS

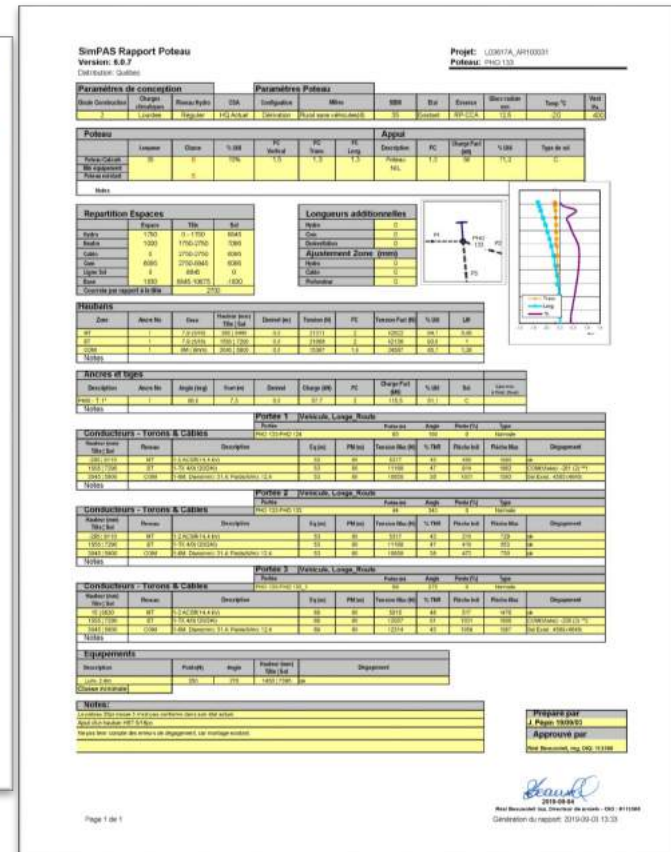
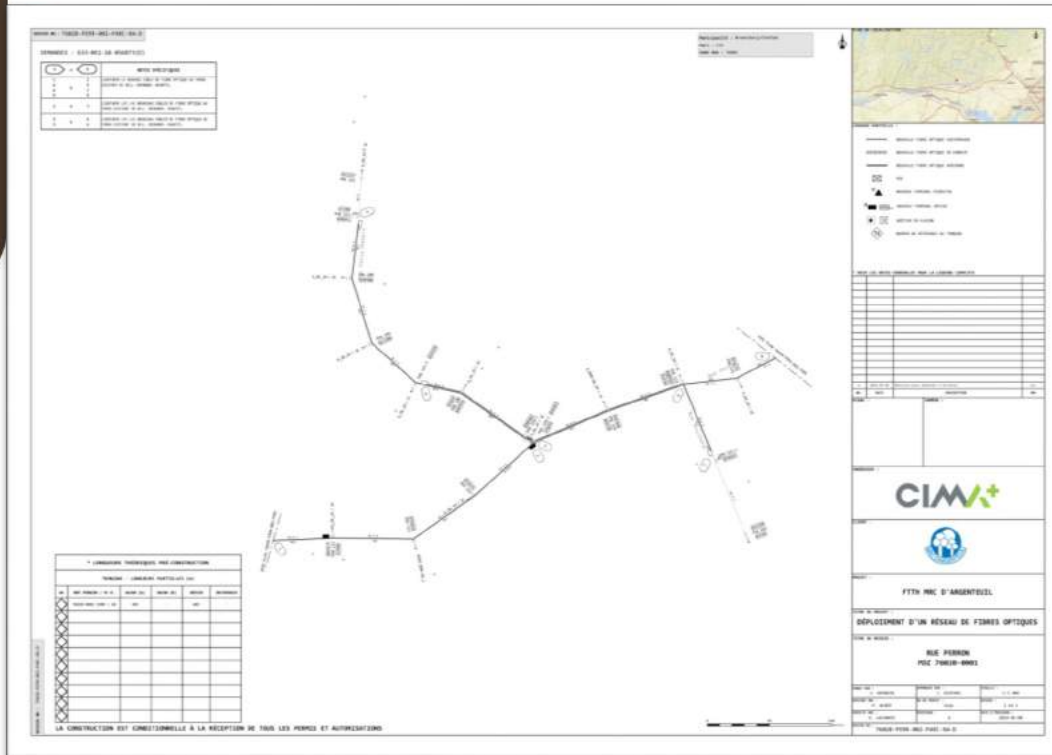
# MAJOR OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO APPLICATIONS FOR THE USE OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES – CONTEXT –

*These projects require the submission of support structure attachment permit applications. This process is lengthy and complex and slows down the deployment of the projects, as well as adding significant expense to their implementation.*



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DUSS (v. 1.27)  
Liste des demandes  
Jones, Frédéric (MRC d'Argenteuil)

Afficher statuts :  Entreprise  Partenaire  Tous  
Messages :  Non lus  Tous  
Vérifiées :  Oui  Non  Toutes

No. DUSS  1 2 (94 Demandes)  Filtrer

No. demande	Secteur receveur	Parc - Municipalité	Adresse	A/S	Statut précédent	Statut actuel	Dernier changement de statut	Vérifiées	Liaison lu
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066526</a>	H54 - Mille les	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - ÉQUIPEMENT - 3103, Route 327			Ouverte			
<a href="#">G33-BK1-20-066484</a>	BK1 - Laurentien	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - Du 4, rue des Merisiers au 144 chemin McDonald et 23 rue Maple Wood.	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-01-31		
<a href="#">G33-BK1-20-066483</a>	BK1 - Laurentien	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - Du 16 Chemin Cammac au 40 Chemin des merisiers	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-02-07		
<a href="#">G33-BK1-20-066482</a>	BK1 - Laurentien	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - Du 16 Chemin Cammac au 71 Chemin des Bouleaux Blancs	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-02-07		
<a href="#">G33-BK1-20-066481</a>	BK1 - Laurentien	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - Du 3045 au 3103 Route 327.	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-02-07		
<a href="#">G33-BK1-20-066479</a>	BK1 - Laurentien	Harrington - 515 - 76065	PDZ 76065-0004 - Du 2935 au 3045 Route 327.	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-01-31		
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066411</a>	H54 - Mille les	Lachute - 518 - 76020	ARGT018-T3-D01 / ARG-2019-F003 SECTEUR DUNANY LACHUTE	A	A l'étude	Incomplet	2020-02-05	✓	
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066410</a>	H54 - Mille les	Lachute - 518 - 76020	ARGT018-T3-D01 / ARG-2019-F003 SECTEUR DUNANY LACHUTE	A	A l'étude	Approbation demandeur	2020-02-05	✓	
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066319</a>	H54 - Mille les	Lachute - 518 - 76020	ARGT018-T2-D01 / ARG-2019-F003 SECTEUR DUNANY	A	Soumise	A l'étude	2020-01-22		
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066306</a>	H54 - Mille les	Grenville-sur-le-Rouge - 581 - 76052	76065-0006 - MONTÉE LATÉRALE - 210, Chemin de Harrington	A		Ouverte			
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066307</a>	H54 - Mille les	Harrington - 581 - 76065	76065-0006 - MONTÉE LATÉRALE - 192, Chemin de Harrington	A		Ouverte			
<a href="#">G33-H54-20-066304</a>	H54 - Mille les	Harrington - 581 - 76065	76065-0006 - ÉQUIPEMENT - 145 Chemin de Harrington	A		Ouverte			

# MAJOR OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO APPLICATIONS FOR THE USE OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES

## – THE ISSUES –

- **Refusal of applications**
  - They leave room for interpretation and result in significant delays in the progress of the projects, which could prevent the delivery of the network on schedule.
- **Responsibility for network maintenance**
  - In order to obtain an attachment permit following a refusal, it is generally necessary to bring the BELL and Hydro-Québec network up to standard, unfortunately at the expense of the MRC and governments.
- **Self-exemption by infrastructure owners**
  - In some locations, structure owners were found to have installed cables without bringing the structures up to standard as required.
- **Disputes between infrastructure owners**
  - In some locations, owners are caught in the middle of a dispute over a structure and do not carry out the necessary work, not knowing who will pay for it. In such situations, permit applications submitted by MRCs are put on hold.

# MAJOR OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO APPLICATIONS FOR THE USE OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES

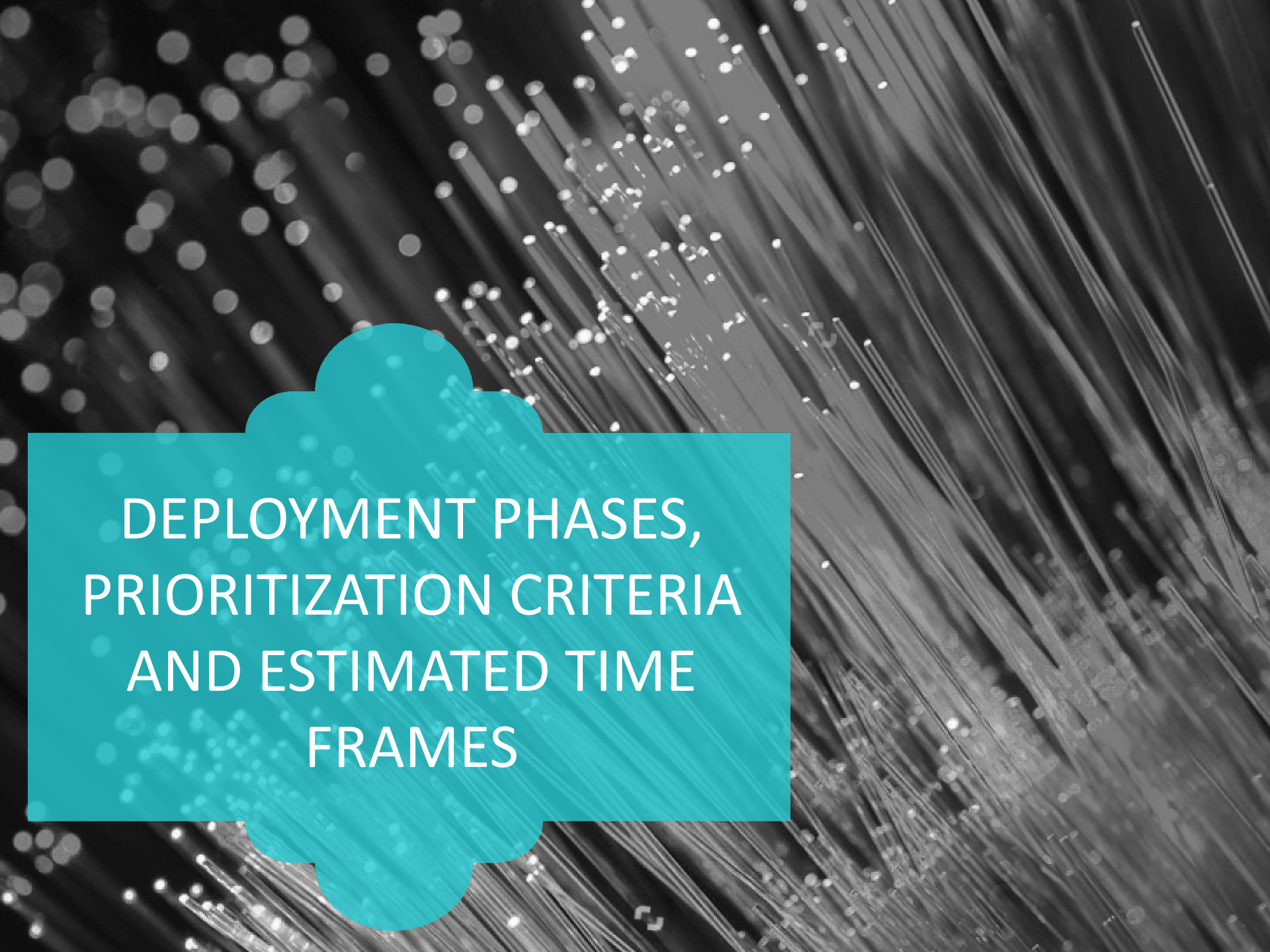
## – THE ISSUES –

- **Fees related to the processing of applications**
  - Every permit application made to structure owners is subject to a processing fee.
- **Follow-up of preparatory work**
  - Owners and stakeholders must coordinate to bring the structures up to standard, but there is no mechanism allowing the MRC to monitor the progress of the work.
- **Time required for preparatory work**
  - The preparatory work carried out by Hydro-Québec requires three (3) months, a time frame that is generally respected. BELL, on the other hand, requires six (6) to nine (9) months to complete the necessary work.

*This is a frustrating situation and a double standard*

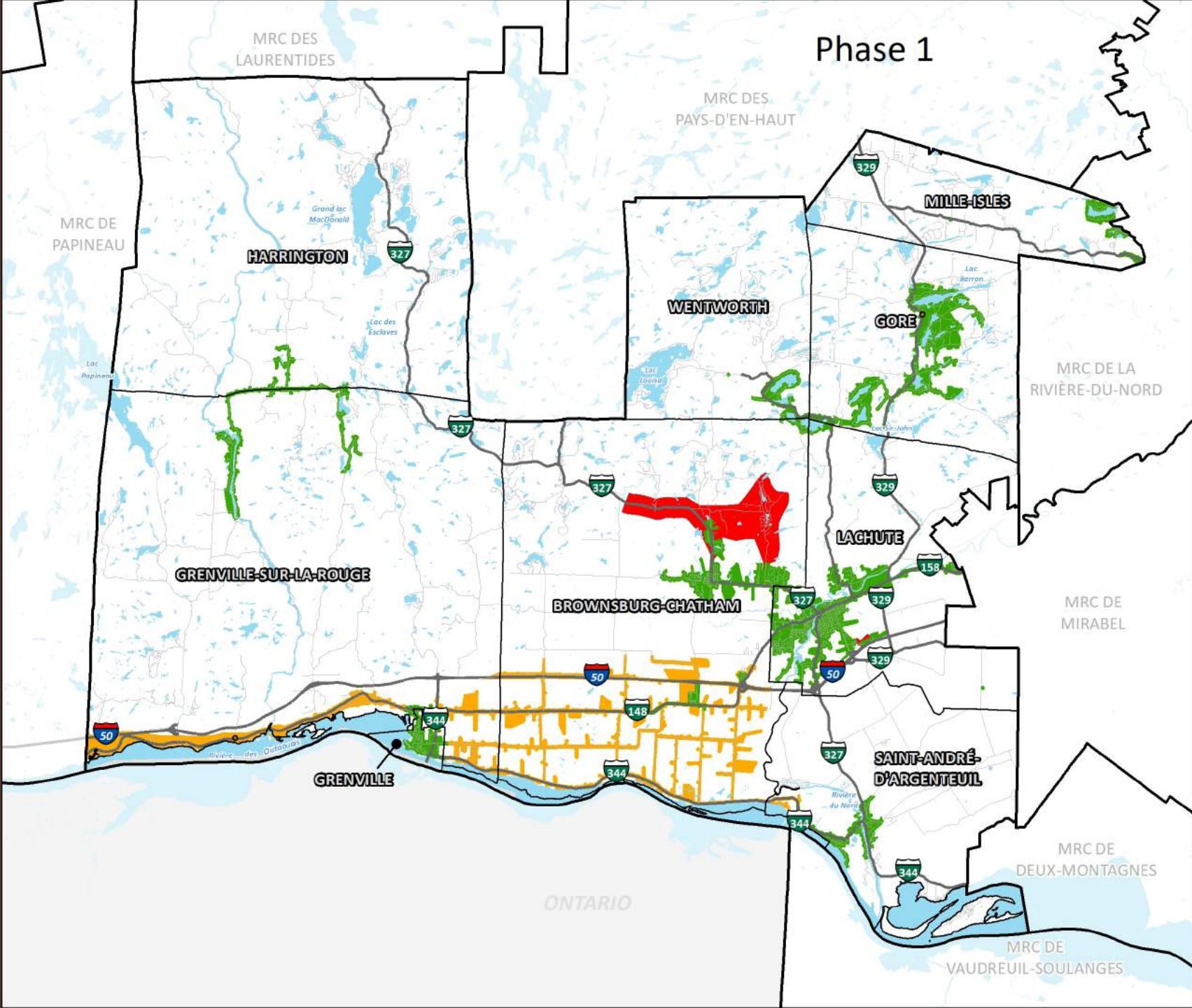
# MAJOR OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO APPLICATIONS FOR THE USE OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES – ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MRC –

- **Adoption of resolutions by the MRC deploring this situation to:**
  - The Member of National Assembly of Quebec, constituency of Argenteuil, Mrs. Agnès Grondin;
  - The Member of National Assembly of Canada, constituency of Argenteuil-La Petite-Nation, Mr. Stéphane Lauzon;
  - The Government of Québec;
  - The Government of Canada;
  - The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC);
  - The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);
  - The Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM);
  - The Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ);
- Meeting in October 2019 with Gilles Bélanger, MNA for Orford and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economy and Innovation (economy and high-speed Internet);
- Production of a joint document with the MRC d'Antoine-Labelle highlighting this issue (December 2019);
- Preparation of a brief as part of the CRTC's call for comments regarding potential barriers to the deployment of broadband-capable networks in underserved areas in Canada (submitted in April 2020).

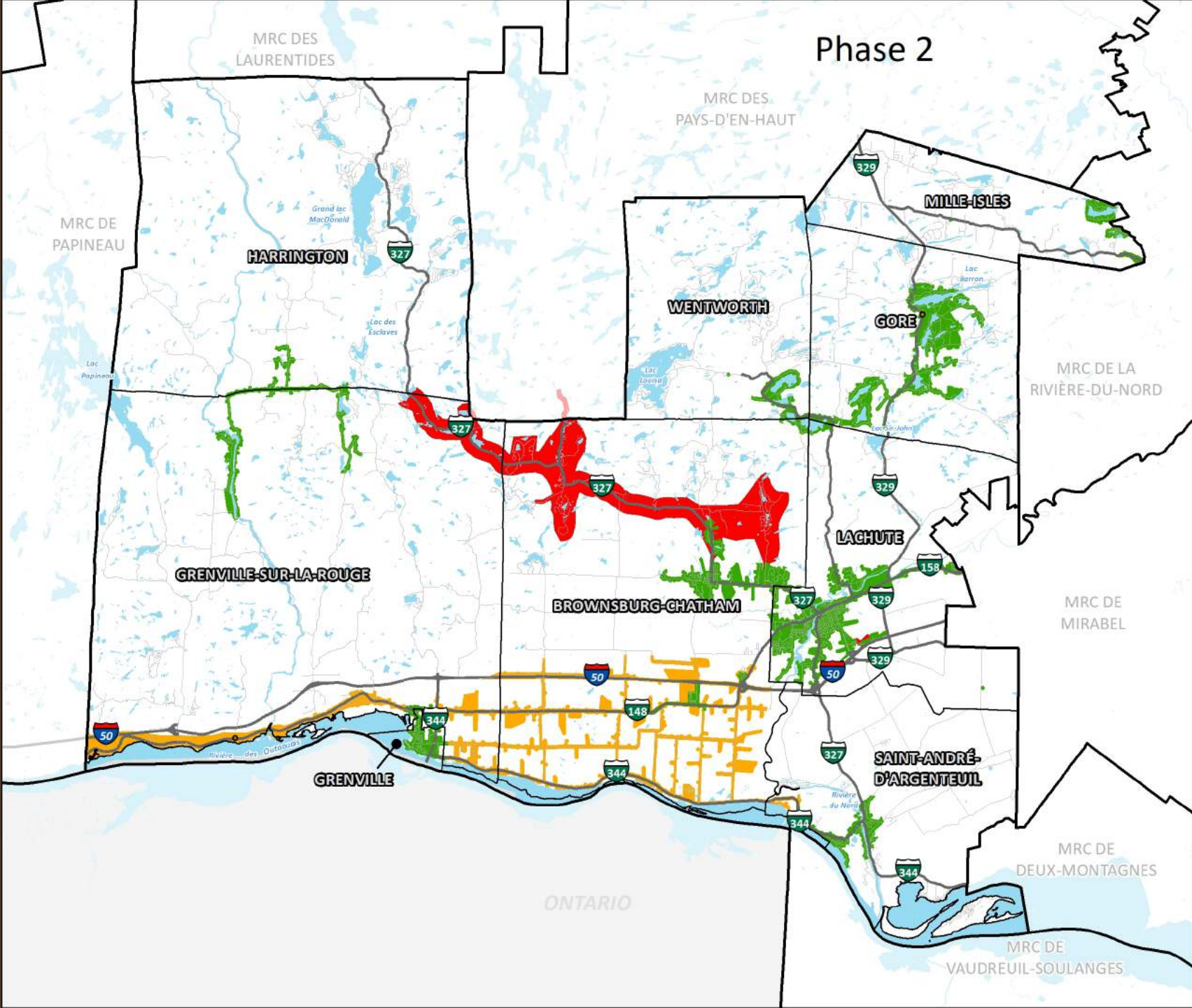


DEPLOYMENT PHASES,  
PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA  
AND ESTIMATED TIME  
FRAMES

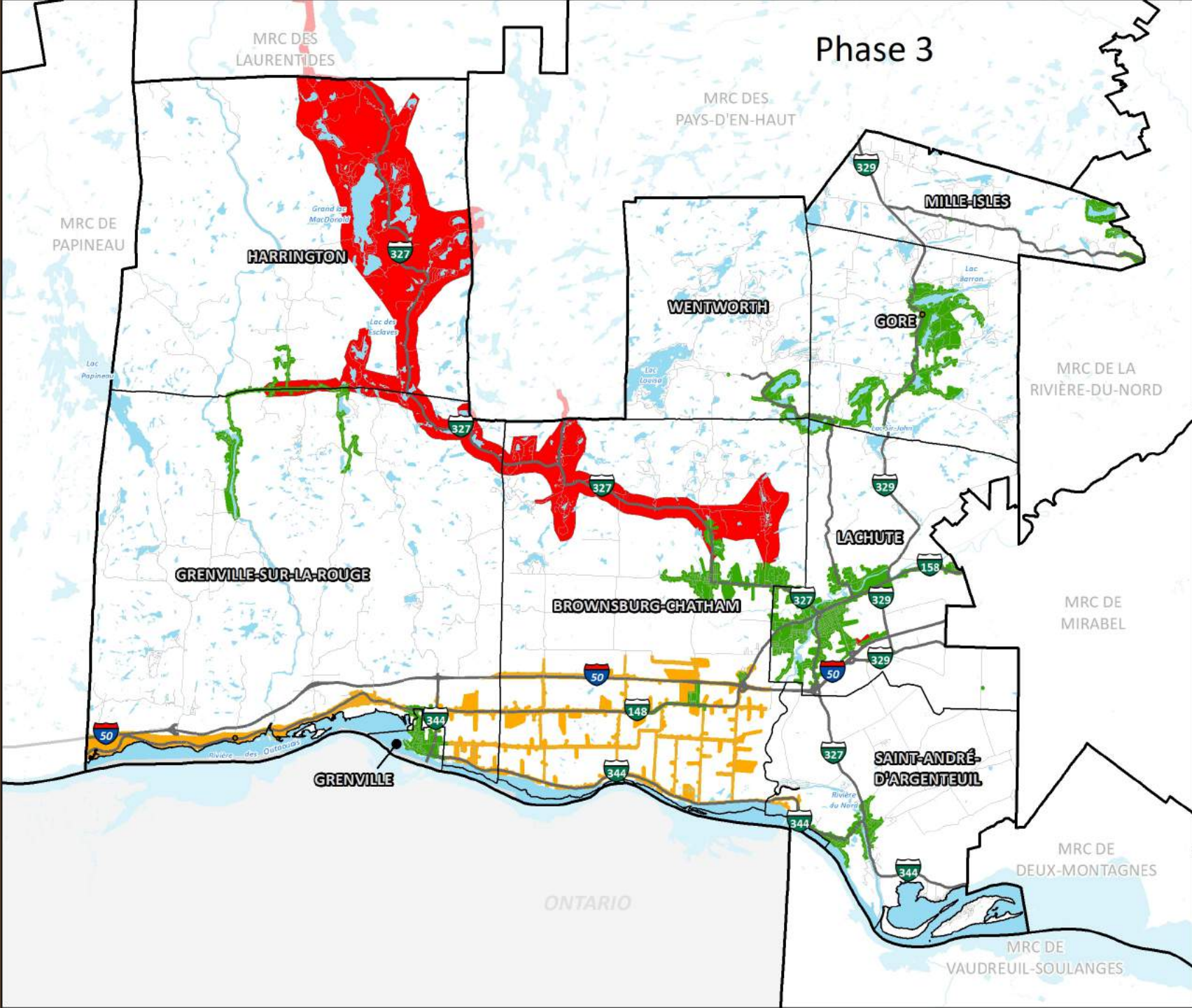
Phase 1



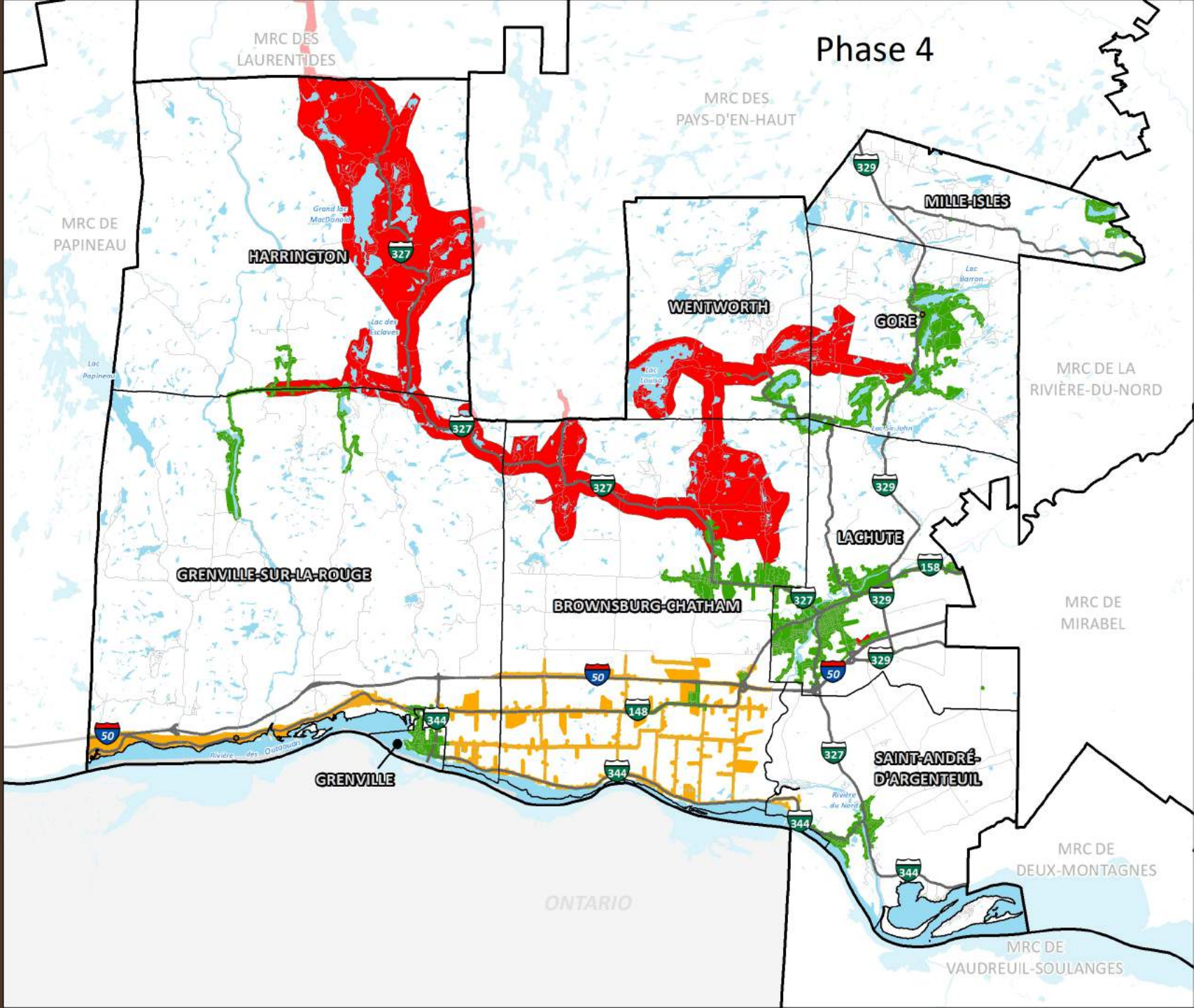
Phase 2



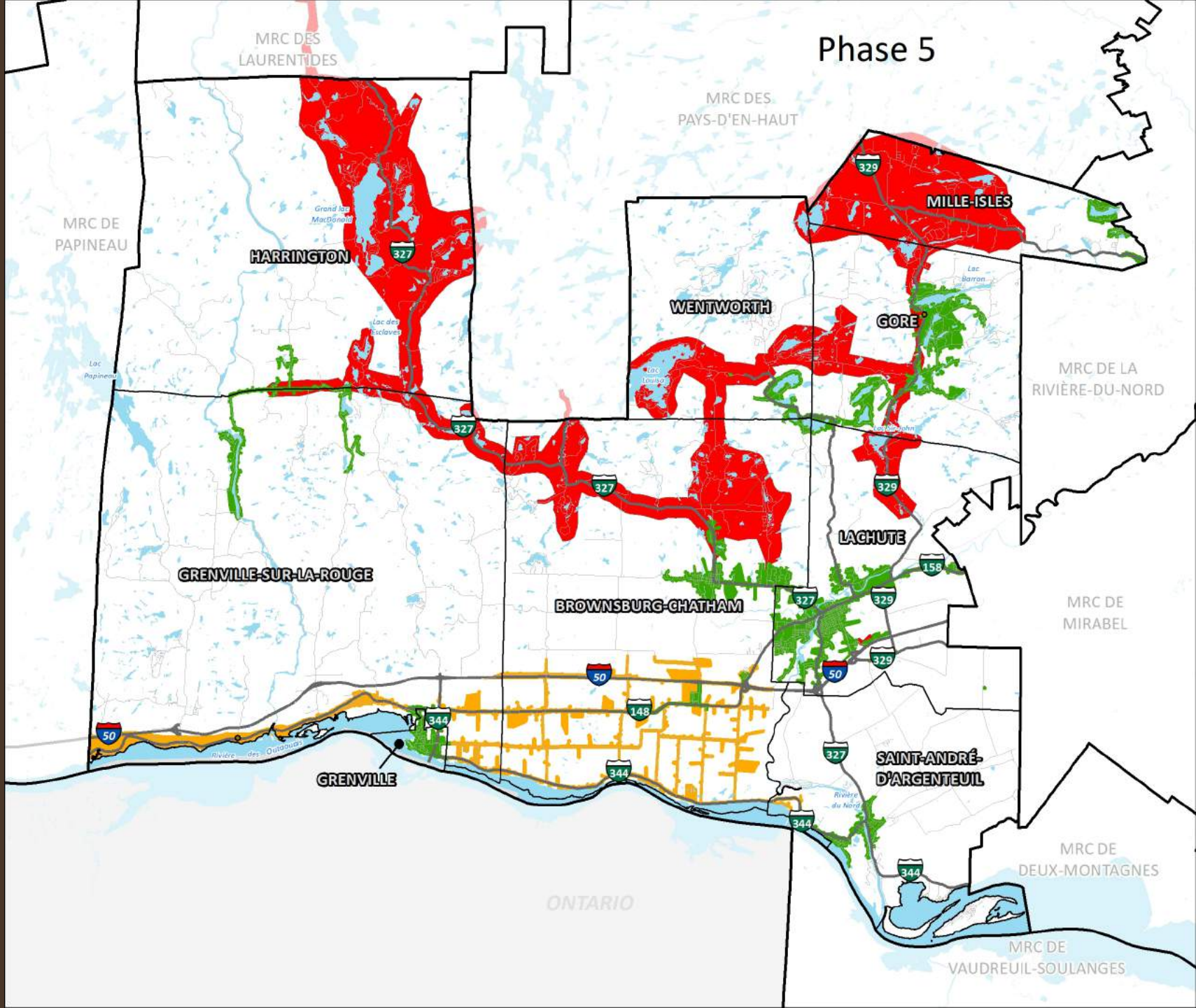
Phase 3



# Phase 4

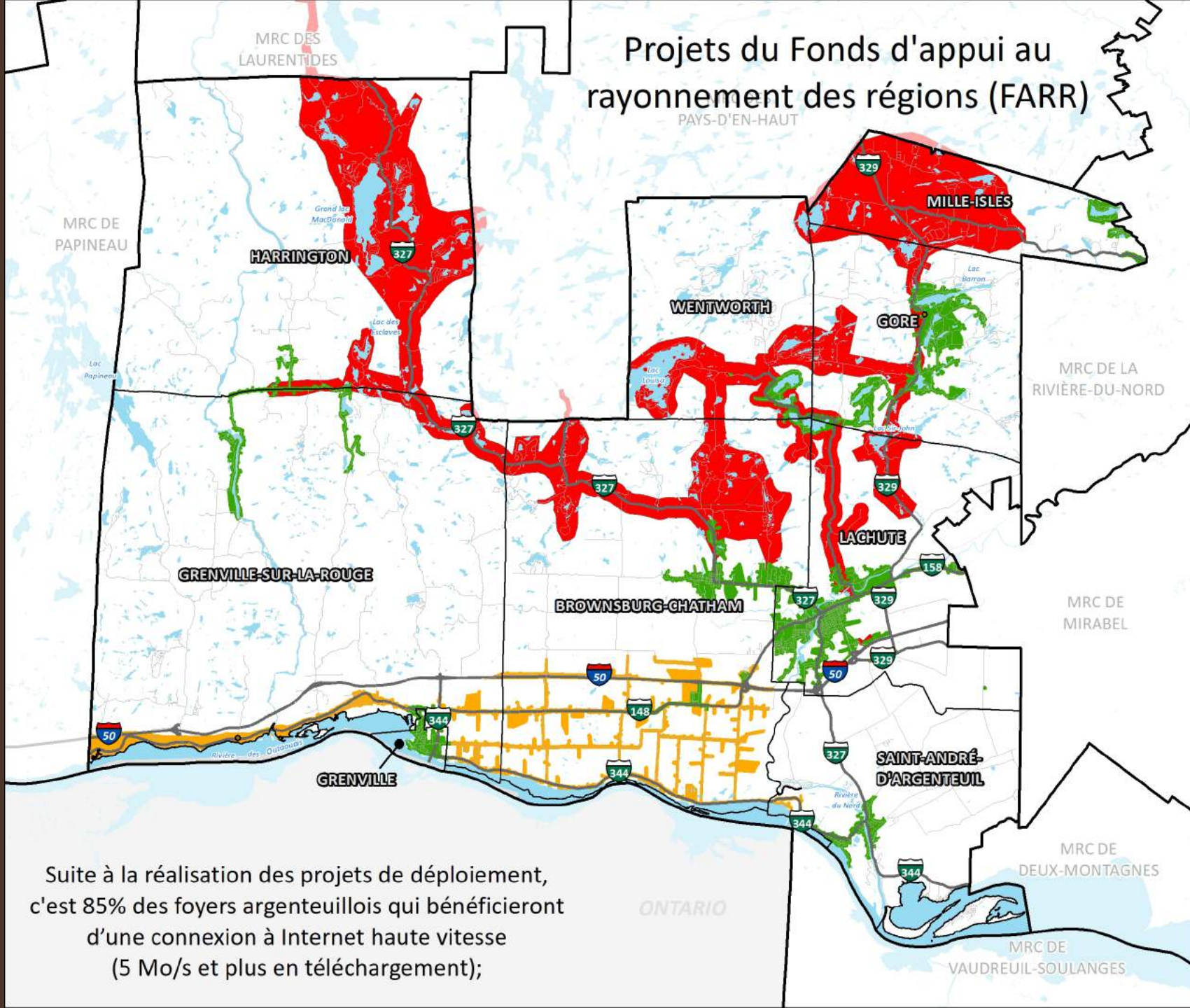


# Phase 5



# Projets du Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions (FARR)

PAYS-D'EN-HAUT



Suite à la réalisation des projets de déploiement, c'est 85% des foyers argenteuillois qui bénéficieront d'une connexion à Internet haute vitesse (5 Mo/s et plus en téléchargement);

The background of the image shows a dense array of fiber optic cables, with many individual strands visible, creating a complex, web-like pattern of light and shadow. The cables are primarily in shades of grey and black, with some points of light reflecting off their surfaces. In the foreground, there is a large, teal-colored shape that resembles a stylized cloud or a decorative frame. This shape has a scalloped top edge and a solid teal fill. Centered within this teal shape is the text "INVESTMENTS BY THE MRC AND FIBRE ARGENTEUIL" in a white, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in two lines, with "INVESTMENTS BY THE MRC" on the top line and "AND FIBRE ARGENTEUIL" on the bottom line. The overall composition is modern and technical, suggesting a focus on telecommunications or infrastructure investment.

INVESTMENTS BY THE MRC  
AND FIBRE ARGENTEUIL



## LES INVESTISSEMENTS

Ingénierie, construction et équipements	9 304 710 \$
Aménagement de la salle télécom	160 000 \$
Boîtiers non subventionnés	320 000 \$
Fils de services et ONT	1 000 000 \$
Contingences au projet	934 000 \$

**TOTAL: 11 718 710\$**

Acquisition bande passante (données, téléphonie et télévision)	<b>4 816 000 \$</b>
Locaux administratifs (location)	
Ressources humaines	
Véhicules	
Mobilier, ordinateurs et équipements	
Installation intérieure	
Systèmes OSS et BSS	
ONT et Modem (équipements clients)	

**TOTAL: 4 816 000 \$**




MRC  
**D'ARGENTEUIL**  
Authentique. *Avec vous.*



## LES REVENUS

Subvention fédérale	4 652 355 \$	Emprunt cautionné par la MRC	4 816 000 \$
Subvention provinciale	4 652 355 \$	<b>TOTAL: 4 816 000 \$</b>	
Règlement d'emprunt de la MRC	2 414 000 \$		
<b>TOTAL: 11 718 710 \$</b>			

MRC d'Argenteuil	11 718 710 \$
Fibre Argenteuil	4 816 000 \$
<b>COÛT TOTAL ESTIMÉ DU PROJET: 16 534 710 \$</b>	



ROLES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE  
MRC AND FIBRE  
ARGENTEUIL

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



MRC  
**D'ARGENTEUIL**  
Authentique. *Avec vous.*



**FIBRE**  
ARGENTEUIL

- Engineering and construction of the FTTH network;
  - Construction or creation of a telecommunications station;
  - Acquisition of active equipment;
  - Network maintenance;
  - Payment of right-of-way and utility pole attachment fees;
  - Compliance with BELL and Hydro-Québec contract requirements regarding the positioning of support structures (poles and strands);
  - Application to future government of Canada and Québec funding programs.
- Operation of the MRC networks;
  - Customer service;
  - 24/7 FTTH network monitoring;
  - Customer connections and equipment;
  - Network service provision;
    - Internet bandwidth, television signals and dial-up telephone service.
  - Customer billing system;
  - Clientele development - (marketing and communications);
  - Human resources;
  - Administrative offices, furnishings and computer equipment;
  - Vehicles.



NEXT STEPS

# NEXT STEPS

- **Spring 2020:**
  - Awarding of the mandate for the construction of the network (MRC);
  - Awarding of the mandate for the acquisition of Internet, Telephone and Television signals (Fibre Argenteuil);
  - Creation of the telecommunications centre at 430 Rue Grace, Lachute (MRC);
  - Publication of packages and rates (Fibre Argenteuil);
  - Opening of the subscription period (Fibre Argenteuil);
  - Test phase (MRC and Fibre Argenteuil).
- **Summer / Fall 2020: Commissioning\* of Phase 1**
- **Starting in Fall 2020: Commissioning\* of Phases 2 to 5**

\*Subject to the issuance of permits from support structure owners

# Stay informed about the progress of the MRC's high speed Internet deployment projects



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