Innovation Happens in Manitoba

HYDRO DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN MANITOBA



SEPTEMBER, 2002 – RURAL MB – Manitoba Hydro is in the process of installing a microwave link from Richer to Grunthal for its own internal requirements. This link will be inter-connected with Manitoba Hydro's fibre optic network and will be capable of delivering broadband services to St. Pierre and the surrounding communities.

If a mutually acceptable agreement is reached, Wicomm Inc., a Calgary based wireless solution provider (Manitoba Hydro's last mile partner) will be responsible for building the

wireless extension between Grunthal and St. Pierre (Manitoba Hydro is a major shareholder in Wicomm Inc.). Wicomm will also be the point of contact for the St. Pierre Community Access Group ("SPCAG") and/or the Red River School Division ("RRSD").

Wicomm will install its wireless

equipment simultaneous to Manitoba Hydro completing the Grunthal build, that broadband can be services delivered into St. Pierre in time for the beginning of the fall, 2002 school year. It is our understanding that Wicomm will be able to utilize microwave tower in St. Pierre that will be

constructed by RRSD.

Wicomm will provide wholesale broadband transport services and/or broadband Internet wholesale services to SPCAG and/or RRSD for re-sale to various users within the community. SPCAG and/or RRSD will be responsible for the retail distribution of services within the community, including construction and operation of the local distribution network and any customer support or billing related to the delivery of retail services.

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