



Corporation of the County of Bruce  
Office of the Warden

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## Media Release

January 19, 2018

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### **Bruce County's Leadership on SWIFT Board - Working to Bring Ultra-high Speed Broadband to Everyone!**

**Walkerton, ON:** Bruce County recognizes that working with the community to bring fibre-optic connectivity to every citizen, farm, business and organization is critical to prosperity in this area. While attending the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus in Simcoe County, Warden Paul Eagleson was pleased to support the continued leadership from Bruce County on the SouthWestern Integrated Fiber Technology (SWIFT) board.

Bruce County Warden, Paul Eagleson announces Past Warden Mitch Towlan's continued leadership as a Director of the SWIFT project. He comments that, "having involvement in the leadership of the SWIFT project will ensure that the plan to connect over 350 communities and more than 3.5 million Ontarians will best meet the needs of residents here."

Bruce County was a founding partner in SWIFT and continues to invest in this initiative. Council approved an annual contribution of \$172,018.40 for five years in June of 2017. CAO Kelley Coulter explains that, "With the ever-growing demand for connectivity, providing ultra-high speed connectivity is as critical to rural economic development now - similar to connecting electricity to residents was in the 1950's."

SWIFT is a project that was initiated by Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus (WOWC) in 2011. SWIFT stands for the South Western Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Network. The goal of this project is to provide ultra-high speed broadband for everyone.

Also during the meeting, Past Warden Twolan was appointed to the Economic Development Committee of Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus who will be launching a new Economic Development Strategy for the region. Additionally,



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Kelley Coulter CAO was reappointed as Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Treasurer for the 2018 fiscal year.

**For more information, contact:**

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