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**From:** yourcitywide@tsa.ca <yourcitywide@tsa.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 1, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** Alain Muise <admuisse@munargyle.com>  
**Subject:** Opportunity to ensure affordable internet access in Nova Scotia



Dear Alain,

We are writing to ask for assistance regarding an internet access and affordability issue that affects the District of Argyle and its residents. City Wide Communications is a Halifax-based company that provides high-speed, low-cost internet across Atlantic Canada. City Wide currently services a number of households throughout Nova Scotia by providing markedly more affordable Internet plans compared to competitors.

In Nova Scotia, City Wide's internet is provided by infrastructure – known as transport services and points of interconnection (POI) – operated by Eastlink. Eastlink locates a key POI for Nova Scotia at Pennant Point, well outside Halifax, and City Wide is compelled to use that POI. Eastlink has a monopoly on transport services to Pennant Point, and uses that monopoly to force competitors to pay exorbitant fees for transport. And this situation is not unique; lack of competition in transport services is limiting consumer choice for affordable internet across Atlantic Canada. In this case, the unduly high and anti-competitive transport fees imposed by Eastlink prevent City Wide from reinvesting in our network, in order to provide more and better internet services to Nova Scotians.

Recently, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission denied a request by City Wide for relocation of the Pennant Point POI to Halifax. So, we petitioned the Federal Cabinet to reverse

that decision. Public comments on [City Wide's petition](#) can be submitted until September 12. We respectfully invite you to comment in support of the petition, because we believe its success would benefit your community.

Specifically, relocation of the Pennant Point POI to Metro Halifax would allow City Wide to make investments in growing and improving our network that would help increase the availability and affordability of high-speed, low-cost internet services across Nova Scotia. Currently, the excessive, unnecessary transit fees for Pennant Point add millions of dollars to our costs and are prohibitive to expansion of our services. Locating a key POI at Pennant Point also makes the region's internet network more vulnerable to service outages than is necessary, due to a lack of infrastructure redundancies.

City Wide has consistently reinvested most of its profits back into its business, which has allowed it to grow into the most significant competitor to the incumbent carriers in Atlantic Canada. We are committed to continuing that tradition and the success of our petition would facilitate that.

We have attached draft comments for your consideration, which you should feel free to personalize. Comment guidelines [are highlighted at this link](#), and the attached draft letter is correctly formatted. Should you comment, we also kindly ask that you copy your Member of Parliament (MP) on the submission. The name of your MP can be confirmed by entering your postal code in the search bar at the top of [this webpage](#), and their email is at the 'contact' tab of their profile. Finally, please know that comments will be public on the Government of Canada website.

Thank you very much for considering this request. We greatly appreciate your help in this matter. If you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact us at your convenience.

Kind Regards,

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***On behalf of City Wide Communications***

**Joshua Matthewman**, Director; and

**Damian Chiu**, Consultant

**TEMPLE SCOTT ASSOCIATES**

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